

Page 22
ardia

Monday March 18 1996

Abu Dhabi D 8 50
Algeria 2 20
Andorra FF 10
Austria 2 20
Belgium 20 0 85
Bosnia 1 15
Brazil 1 15
Canada 1 15
Czech 1 15
Denmark 1 15
Ecuador 1 15
Egypt 1 15
Finland 1 15
France 1 15
Germany 1 15
Greece 1 15
Hong Kong HKS 25
Iceland 1 15
India 1 15
Indonesia 1 15
Italy 1 15
Japan 1 15
Jordan 1 15
Korea 1 15
Kuwait 1 15
Labrador 1 15
Lithuania 1 15
Luxembourg 1 15
Malta 1 15
Mauritius 1 15
Morocco 1 15
Netherlands 1 15
Norway 1 15
Oman 1 15
Pakistan 1 15
Poland 1 15
Portugal 1 15
Qatar 1 15
Romania 1 15
Russia 1 15
Saudi Arabia 1 15
Slovakia 1 15
Slovenia 1 15
Spain 1 15
Sweden 1 15
Switzerland 1 15
Taiwan 1 15
Thailand 1 15
Turkey 1 15
USA 1 15
Zimbabwe 1 15

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NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR
46,503

Martin Walker on a remarkable political entourage

Dole's women



G2 with European weather

Monday sketch: introducing a new column

Matthew Engel on Croydon's thespians



This section page 2

Media

Jon Snow: death and the media

G2 pages 8/9

'Deepest sympathy — Elizabeth R' • Royal visitors lay flowers for murdered children



The Queen meets mourners outside Dunblane Cathedral yesterday. She laid a wreath at the primary school

PHOTOGRAPH: PETER KEMP

Nation stops to mourn

The Queen knelt and shops fell silent for the dead of Dunblane. **Erlend Clouston reports**

WITH THE Princess Royal on her left, the Queen, wearing a dark blue coat, walked cautiously towards the heart of the bank of bouquets. Where the school drive met the street, she knelt and set a circle of pink and cream flowers on the wet tarmac. Princess Anne added a bouquet of snowdrops, bound in tartan ribbon. The Queen's note read: "With deepest sympathy — Elizabeth R."

The pair stepped back four paces, stood in silence for a few seconds and glanced briefly in the direction of the empty playground. "It's appalling," the Queen mouthed to the Scottish Secretary, Michael Forsyth. She turned to go back to her limousine, then checked and stepped briskly past her wreath to have a word with 77-year-old Elizabeth Walker from Glenrothes. "She said it was a tragedy, happening in a place like this," reported Mrs Walker as

the royal party headed off for Stirling Infirmary, where five pupils and two teachers are still being treated. Earlier, just before 9.30am, 40 people had gathered outside the gates of Dunblane Primary School, where last Wednesday Thomas Hamilton slaughtered 16 five-year-old children and their teacher before killing himself. To a stranger they might have looked like a bus queue, were it not for the flowers and the crash barriers. The bouquets had been leaned against the garden walls of the fine houses in Deane Road. A sign read: "All the soft toys have been placed inside the school, for weather protection." "It is just something we had to do," said Peter McGehe, a blacksmith from Parkhead, in

Glasgow. "I'm just hoping to get some strength for the future," murmured Alex Downie, from Dunblane. A policeman's radio fizzed. "Okay, people, it's 9.30," he said, folding his hands in front of his yellow jacket. Simultaneously, millions of people across the country turned their thoughts to Dunblane. For 60 seconds shoppers paused in supermarkets and broadcasters fell silent. Trains were deliberately delayed at 14 main stations. Scores of motorway service stations suspended fuel sales. Airports and ferry terminals requested respect for the memory of the 17 victims. It was probably the country's most concentrated expression of community spirit since the end of the second world war.

In Dunblane itself, the morning service from the cathedral was transmitted live to the nation. The Reverend Colin McIntosh could offer no theological explanation for the "bitter, dreadful reality" that Dunblane was waking up to. "Last Wednesday morning we glimpsed a facet of life we don't ever dare to consider for too long; that what begins as an ordinary day for ordinary people... can end in such heartache, sorrow and despair," he said. Outside, another 100 people stood in the graveyard as the victims' names were read out of a BBC loudspeaker. Several hundred miles to the south the same dismal toll was being read at Westminster Abbey. "We are remembering every boy and girl in that class because we know how happy they were... and how unfair and wrong it all seems to be," Mr McIntosh told the Sunday school. "Even the grown-ups don't understand." For them, Mr McIntosh had the thoughts of a survivor of the Zeebrugge ferry disaster. "It's deeply does not take away life, but increases it. Perhaps we are now more loving people, more sensitive, more concerned for each other because of that moment of grief which opens our eyes to the importance of our return to page 4, column 6

Gun ban sought, page 4; Letters, page 8; Ros Coward, page 9; Will Hutton, page 11; Media, G2 pages 7-8

Cricket joy for Sri Lanka

THE streets of Colombo saw astonishing scenes of celebration last night after Sri Lanka completed the biggest triumph in its sporting history by beating Australia in Lahore to win cricket's sixth World Cup. Thousands of supporters poured out of their homes to light firecrackers, dance in the streets and acclaim the seven-wicket victory. It came a month after Australia had refused to play Sri Lanka in their opening group match in Colombo following the bomb blast which killed more than 30 people there. The all-rounder Aravinda de Silva took three wickets followed by a superb 107 not out to see Sri Lanka home. Australia scored 231 for seven in their 50 overs and Sri Lanka reached their target



against Mike Tyson less than a minute into the third round after Bruno had been unable to defend himself. Bruno said it was too soon to make a decision about retirement. "I don't want to jump into things at the moment," he said. "I don't want to make any hasty decisions. I'm not a clairvoyant. I need to sit down and chill out. It's still fresh in my mind." The fight was broadcast live on BSkyB at 8pm yesterday. The satellite station, which charged £9.95 for Britain's first pay-per-view event, said it signed up 600,000 subscribers and claimed an overall audience of 2 million. In rugby union England won the Triple Crown and Five Nations Championship on Saturday by beating Ireland 38-15 at Twickenham — Will Carling's last match as captain.

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

Gay soldier saved Ashdown

PADDY ASHDOWN yesterday joined in the condemnation of the Government's ban on gays in the armed forces, saying many of Britain's greatest soldiers were gay and revealing that he himself had as a soldier been saved from death by a gay colleague. Mr Ashdown was speaking at the launch of a Liberal Democrat gay guarantee, which includes the right of gays to have the same chances to foster or adopt children as heterosexual couples. "If you really want leadership that is about ducking these issues, as the Labour Party does in order to pander to prejudices, then fine, then go and vote



our country as a foul abomination, then the only thing to do is to back the Liberal Democrats. "The man who trained me... as a young Royal Marine officer was a tremendous man. He was a major in the Royal Marines. He had a brilliant war record — absolutely brilliant. He was kicked out of the services. "He was the best soldier I've ever had the privilege to serve with. I certainly owe my life to him on one occasion." Among the guarantees Mr Ashdown promises are a commitment to end the practice of entrapment by police of gays, the importance of police treating lesbians and gays as equals and legislation to respect private and family life with no interference by a public authority.

Inside

Britain
The lowest paid armed forces families are to lose half their pay rises in a "double whammy" of rent increases and privatisation, the Ministry of Defence admits
5

World
For the bonded labourers living on vast banana or sugar estates in Southern Pakistan, the landlords are akin to God: quick to anger, slow to forgive, and answerable to no one
6

Economics
When Labour takes office, tackling job insecurity will have to be top priority. And the party will have to spell out clearly how this will be done
11

Profile
If you can survive the wavering prose, you get some hint of the charm that comes through in her conversation. She is a very, very, silly Jilly; but you can't help liking her for it
G2

Comment and letters 8; Obituaries 10; G2; Crossword 15; Weather 16

GEC in £5bn Middle East arms deal

Paul Murphy, Simon Beavis and David Fairhall

GEC, Britain's leading defence contractor, is on the brink of securing a multi-billion pound order to supply a set of new weapons systems to the United Arab Emirates which would secure thousands of jobs in the defence industry. The deal, worth up to £5 billion according to some experts, involves development of a new "super-intelligent" missile similar to the American Tomahawk cruise missile. Secret negotiations on the contract have been under way for more than a year, and the technology involved has been exhaustively tested over recent months. Some close followers of GEC had expected news of the contract to be announced last week, with the company planning a series of presentations in London. But a last-minute hitch has meant that announcement of the deal could now be delayed for weeks or even months. One issue thought by some observers to have slowed down the deal is the negotiation of a military treaty between Britain and the UAE, similar to tie-ups being negotiated between the Emirates and the US and France. The treaty — probably in the form of a memorandum of understanding — would cover deployment and stationing of troops in the UAE. Although it is not a trade agreement, like the giant Al-Yamamah oil for arms deal with Saudi Arabia which is worth £2 billion a year, the memorandum would form a framework within which commercial negotiations could proceed. The agreement has already proved an embarrassing obstacle in Britain's efforts to sell Tornado aircraft to the UAE, primarily in competition with French Mirages. The French, according to the Arab state, are prepared

to put their rapid reaction force under local jurisdiction whereas the British are not — a refusal confirmed by the Defence Secretary, Michael Portillo, during a visit to the Gulf at the end of last year. Observers believe the deal has taken so long to negotiate because the UAE has in recent years loosened its dependence on Britain as its prime supplier of armaments and has been trying to cut defence procurement costs by encouraging competition among foreign manufacturers. While details of the new missile system remain hazy, GEC has lined up more than 100 other companies to carry out sub-contracting work. Many of these are British — such as Lucas Industries, Dowty, Fairley Group and M. L. Aviation — but GEC is also planning to use a South African company, Kentron, to produce some of the more advanced electronics. GEC has long supplied its Hawk guided weapon system to the UAE, and is said to be offering one of two possible upgraded versions of this system. A similar weapon — codenamed Pegasus — has also been offered by GEC to the Royal Air Force, which is looking for a new conventionally armed stand-off missile (Casom). However the frontrunners for a deal with the British defence ministry to buy a similar guided missile system to the UAE's — to be decided in July — are believed to be British Aerospace Dynamics' Storm Shadow, based on a French Matra airframe, an air-launched version of the American Tomahawk missile made by Hughes, and a cheap but effective Israeli missile called the Popeye. The MoD's defence evaluation and research authority is evaluating the competing systems being offered for the Casom contract. But with GEC's efforts trailing in the RAF competition, the UAE order is doubly important to the group's efforts to maintain a strong showing in the guided weapons industry.

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No cash, no time, but the shows must go on

'Amateur theatricals have become an improbable victim of the Thatcherite years. Many societies have closed . . . if they aren't dying, they're all panting a bit'

Monday sketch



Matthew Engel

IT HAD all been terribly fraught, in a particularly theatrical sort of way. First, there was the business with His Worship the Mayor, who was given the wrong date and turned up the previous Saturday night. Then the adjudicator fell ill and had to be replaced at the last moment. There was all that trouble with the police. Once they turned up en masse, sirens wailing, to investigate reports of an intruder over the road — right in the middle of one of the plays. The effect was deafening. Then the front-of-house manager somehow picked up the emergency channel on her walkie-talkie. She was trying to shout "Go, go, go" to get the next production onstage. Heaven knows what happened next, but a awful lot of police cars seemed to think they



Morven Ray, left, and Joyce Johnson of the Croydon Operatic and Dramatic Society backstage. PHOTOGRAPH: KIPPA MATTHEWS

were being directed to an incident at Addiscombe. Next thing, the lighting went temperamental. And at 6.58 on Saturday night, two minutes before curtain up on one of the biggest nights of the South London amateur dramatic calendar, some jobs worth from the London Borough of Croydon said the furniture on stage was blocking a fire exit and would have to be shifted. This does not happen to Trevor Nunn.

But it was all right on the night. And the grand finale of the 50th Annual Drama Festival of the Croydon & District Theatre Guild, at the Stanley Concert Hall, South Norwood, passed off with very few hitches. Even the mayor ("Bless him, he's a sweet man," said guild secretary Barbara Barnes) gamely turned up a second time and made a graceful speech before presenting the prizes on this jubilee occasion.

Actually, it was not entirely all right, because in this corner of the theatrical world things rarely are these days. The Croydon event is part of the All-England Drama Festival, a cross between traditional amateur entertainment and the FA Cup. The winning play here is meant to go through to the divisional finals and then — perhaps — to the area finals, the English final and the British final. And the winners of that often get

invited to take their production to places like Dublin and Delhi. Today South Norwood, tomorrow the world. But things are not what they were. Several of this year's preliminary rounds have had to be cancelled due to lack of entries. The Croydon Festival used to last all week, with a matinee on Saturdays, and the Stanley Hall would be sold out. This year there were just nine entries, taking only three days, and even on Satur-

day night there were barely a hundred people present. If any one of them was unconnected with one of the plays, it could only have been the old gent sitting behind me. "Can't hear a thing," he grumbled. "Pity I came. Didn't want to come."

There are the makings of a crisis out of this drama. Amateur theatricals, with their vague associations in the wider public mind of comfy suburbia, harmless incompetence and genteel adultery, have become one of the most improbable victims of the Thatcherite years. Official funding has almost dried up; enthusiasts now have little spare cash themselves to fund their hobby; and many people are so work-oriented that they are getting home far too late and knackered to contemplate weekly rehearsals. The problems are worst in the South-east but the phenomenon is nationwide. Many societies have closed; others have been forced to cut back. If they aren't dying, as someone put it to me, they're all panting a bit. "Groups concentrate on the revenue-raising aspects," said Simon Mendes, chairman of the All-England Festival. "Now it's the Christmas pantos, the summer play in the park. People can't afford to put on festival work. It costs a lot of money to go forward into the later rounds and travel."

"We have to think how we're going to make money the whole time," said Chris Bowers, director of one of the Croydon plays. "You could just charge people £50 a time to take part, but then you'd end up with something like Margo's Music Society in The Good Life."

Paid actors have always looked down on the amateurs, and attitudes have hardened now Equity has lost some of its grip, and producers have been able to give work to non-members. The amateurs try to be snotty in return.

Journalists traditionally go along with the professionals. Many reporters' only real battle for press freedom is their youthful attempts to sneak snide comments about small-town thespians into their local weekly's deliberately bland drama column. There will be no snideness here. Everyone at this festival felt that standards had risen. Hardly anyone needed a prompt. Most of the actors were able to generate humour and pathos quite skilfully. And if some rushed their lines as if it were a race, well, in a way it was. All the plays are one act, and if any overrun or underrun the adjudicator must deduct marks. Anything over 55 minutes would be disqualified. The best thing was that the

stars in Croydon were people who may have a golden future somewhere, whether or not it is Shaftesbury Avenue rather than South Norwood. Joan Chester-Willis, the drama tutor roped in at the last minute to adjudicate, was kindly and constructive about everyone. She named as the week's best adult performer Anya Sayadian, who in best Hollywood fashion is waitingress at Pizza Hut while hoping for a chance at drama school.

The winning production was a wistful little two-hander called Bar and Ger by Geraldine Aron, performed by two very gifted teenagers, Anna Seymour and David Godwin, and put on by the Miller Centre Youth Workshop from Caterham. Under some technical assistance, they are barrel from their local weekly's deliberately bland drama column. There will be no snideness here. Everyone at this festival felt that standards had risen. Hardly anyone needed a prompt. Most of the actors were able to generate humour and pathos quite skilfully. And if some rushed their lines as if it were a race, well, in a way it was. All the plays are one act, and if any overrun or underrun the adjudicator must deduct marks. Anything over 55 minutes would be disqualified. The best thing was that the

Adams treads lightly in Big Apple

Ian Katz reports from New York

GERRY Adams had to choose his words carefully. The Sinn Féin leader sympathised with the victims but could not condemn the action taken against them.

It was a familiar position, except that this time the victims were not the targets of IRA bombs but Irish-American gays and lesbians excluded from New York's huge St Patrick's Day parade. "Sinn Féin believes in pluralism and a notion of Irishness which is inclusive," declared Mr Adams in a statement about the annual controversy. He wanted the issue "resolved to the satisfaction of all and in a manner which accords to everyone the respect which is our due."

When he came to the United States in triumph a year ago, Mr Adams is understood to have avoided the parade, the showpiece event of the Irish-American calendar, because of the organisers' refusal to allow gay and lesbian Irish group to participate. But this time the circumstances were very different. Denied a White House handshake, Mr Adams badly needed a show of support from Irish America. He took his hand in his dealings with the IRA militants. That is exactly what he got as he marched the two-mile route lined by an estimated two million shamrock-touting spectators on Saturday. Marching behind the banner of the United Irish Counties Association, Mr Adams strode down Fifth Avenue a respectable distance from local bigwigs including Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and New York senator Alfonse d'Amato, who observed memorably that "on St Patrick's Day, even Al d'Amato's Irish."

The Sinn Féin leader drew louder cheers than anyone in the 200,000-strong parade. Almost as soon as he swung out of 44th Street to the strains of The Minstrel Boy, there were shouts of "Ger-eee". Mr Adams's decision to march in the parade along



Gerry Adams gives a thumbs-up salute as he marches in the St Patrick's Day parade in New York. PHOTOGRAPH: JOE TABAGGA

New York's smartest shopping street met surprisingly little resistance in a city where the PLO leader, Yasser Arafat, was barred from an official function long after he had made peace with Israel. "This is America," Steve Drake, a teacher aged 46 from Pennsylvania, said. "If Alfonse d'Amato can march, then he can march." Rita Graham Kingsley, aged 38, from Michigan agreed: "He's doing the best he can with the English. It's the English who are holding it up."

Earlier, Mr Adams had attended mass at St Patrick's cathedral where the city's prelate, Cardinal John O'Connor, cracked: "What a remarkable sight. Four thousand Irish in relative peace." The Sinn Féin leader was scheduled to fly back to Ireland yesterday at the end of a difficult six-day visit that

went off as successfully as he might have hoped. Although Mr Adams had to endure the official frostiness of the Clinton administration — and the sight of the Ulster Unionist leader, David Trimble, celebrating St Patrick's Day at the White House — he received an effusive reception from Irish-Americans. David Sharrack, *Ireland Correspondent*, adds: "Unionists yesterday warned John Major not to soften any further on their requirement that the disposal of paramilitary weapons be seriously dealt

with at the outset of all-party talks in June. The Northern Ireland Office this week released a consultation paper, entitled "ground rules for substantive all-party negotiations", which the Ulster Unionists denounced after it was leaked in Dublin on Friday. The document, while heavily qualified, does appear to indicate that the two governments are preparing to push back the moment at which the IRA and loyalists would be required to dispose of some of their weaponry."

Police shun calls to ditch CS spray after man dies

Gary Younge

POLICE will continue to use CS spray, they insisted yesterday, despite calls for its suspension from MPs, civil liberties groups and anti-racist organisations following the death of a Ghanaian-born asylum seeker early on Saturday morning.

After a struggle the police handcuffed him and put him into a police van around 5am. He was taken first to Ilford police station and then to King George's hospital in Ilford where he was later pronounced dead. There is no evidence to suggest the CS spray contributed to this tragic death. There are no plans to suspend use of this spray, which has been used on more than 20 occasions so far and we are not aware of any cases of long-term adverse reactions," said a spokesman for the Association of Chief Police Officers.

But Tony Banks, Labour MP for neighbouring Newham North West, said it might be some time until the exact circumstances of Mr Sey's death become known. "It would be sensible to suspend use of this spray until an absolute exact cause of death is established and CS gas eliminated," he said. A post-mortem examination carried out by three pathologists — representing the coroner, the Police Federation and the Metropolitan Police — indicated that Mr Sey suffered from hypertensive heart disease and had collapsed following a period of exertion. But a spokesman from the Police Complaints Authority, to which the case has been referred, said yesterday: "We can't be absolutely sure of this until we have the results of the toxicology tests, which should show whether the gas contributed to Mr Sey's death. We must also examine whether the use of the spray in this instance was appropriate." The investigation will be headed by the assistant chief constable of Hertfordshire, Frank Williamson. The spray was issued to



Ibrahim Sey . . . suffered hypertensive heart disease

more than 2,000 officers in 16 authorities in England and Wales this month for a six-month trial. One police inspector is suing for compensation after suffering burns to his eyes during a CS gas test in Northampton last summer, which led to trials being temporarily postponed. A man

who claims he suffered a skin complaint after being sprayed in Wales has also lodged a formal complaint.

John Wadham, director of the civil rights group Liberty, called on the police and the Home Office to end the trials, publish information about the dangers and set up a public inquiry into the death of black people in custody. His demand follows criticism from a United Nations committee over Britain's record of investigating deaths in custody, particularly involving black and Irish people. "Current mechanisms for investigating deaths are deficient. They are often investigated by police themselves," it said. Mr Sey is the fourth black man to die in just over a year. Lee Jasper, of the anti-racist National Black Caucus, said: "This will inevitably crystallise the tattered and battered relationship between the black community and the police. The officers involved should be suspended and a public inquiry held."

Pinter's nylon-clad Nemesis homes in on Hackney with unhackneyed feminist vigour

First night

Michael Billington

The Homecoming Leicester Haymarket

HOW much room for manoeuvre is there in Harold Pinter? Quite a lot, as Ben Barnes's new production impressively proves. As in his fine 1994 Dublin production of *Betrayal*, Barnes escapes the imposing memory of

Peter Hall's original without destroying the play's fabric. The biggest shock is Frank Flood's set. We are used to seeing this play with its image of territorial and sexual battles in the north London jungle, taking place in a bleakly cavernous room. Here, however, we are confronted by a black-walled Art Deco house with double fronted door, curved windows and frosted glass panels. But the set offers a vital clue to Barnes's reading, which is that, even before

Teddy and his wife, Ruth, arrive for their unexpected homecoming, a crucial battle has taken place. Max, the foul-mouthed, patriarchal ex-butcher, may bluster and rage, but the room is decisively ruled by his son Lenny. As played by Jonathan Oliver, Lenny is a brutal, sardonic pimp who has clearly imposed his taste on the decor as well as the moral climate. It is an intriguing idea, but accords with the central dynamic of Pinter's play, which shows Ruth's ruthless takeover: as so often in

Pinter's plays, women have a power and resilience denied to men. Shedding the stock image of Ruth as a nylon-clad enigma, Julia Lane plays her — very well — as a cunning, working-class strategist who arrives as Teddy's unknown wife, verbally outpoints Lenny, mesmerises his brother Joey and coolly withstands Max's blistering insults. By the end, when she ascends to Max's throne in a flame-coloured dress, she has assumed total sexual and economic control; and

if she is to go on the game, which is by no means certain, you feel it will be entirely on her own terms. Not all the details in Barnes's reading quite add up. The smart set undermines Pinter's point that Ruth prefers Hackney's rough vitality to sterile American academia. And Lenny, who at the end should be left impotently watching, here squats rather cosily on the back of Ruth's chair. But Barnes is true to the play's visceral linguistic power and comes up with some original vi-

sual touches: where Hall, at the start of Act Two, showed the men wreathed in cigar smoke, Barnes confronts us with four cigars glowing ominously in the dark. Everything, in fact, has been keenly rethought. George Sewell's Max uses vituperative rancour to mask the fact that he is no longer king of the castle. Only Andrew Rattenbury, as Teddy misses some of the character's vicious detachment. But Barnes gives us a new perspective on Pinter's masterpiece without sacrificing its implicit feminism.

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Paralysed Bosnian girl flies to UK

Julian Berger in Sarajevo

HURMIJA Mujic, the 12-year-old Bosnian girl paralysed by shrapnel whose plight was described last month in the Guardian, was evacuated yesterday for treatment in Britain with the help of donations from Guardian readers.

Hurmija, who was wounded in the spine last year during the siege of Srebrenica, will receive therapy from a specialist centre in Oswestry, which doctors expect to save her life and help her walk again. Four other seriously ill Bosnian children were evacuated with her for essential medical care unavailable in their own devastated country.

All five children and their families left Sarajevo yesterday in a Nato-escorted convoy bound for Croatia.

They will apply for British visas today in the Croatian capital, Zagreb, and are due to arrive in London tomorrow. They were accompanied by Sergeant-Major Vic Ferguson, the British soldier serving with the Nato Rapid Reaction Corps in Bosnia who has devoted most of his spare time to helping Hurmija and other sick Bosnian children.

CAJ estimates that 500 children will be born with severe congenital problems or develop serious illnesses over the next two years, on top of more than 1,000 existing cases of sick children dying in isolated parts of Bosnia.

The International refugee agency stopped its medical evacuation programme after the December peace agreement. But Dr Southall argued that evacuations will still be needed in the next few years while the country's health system is rebuilt.

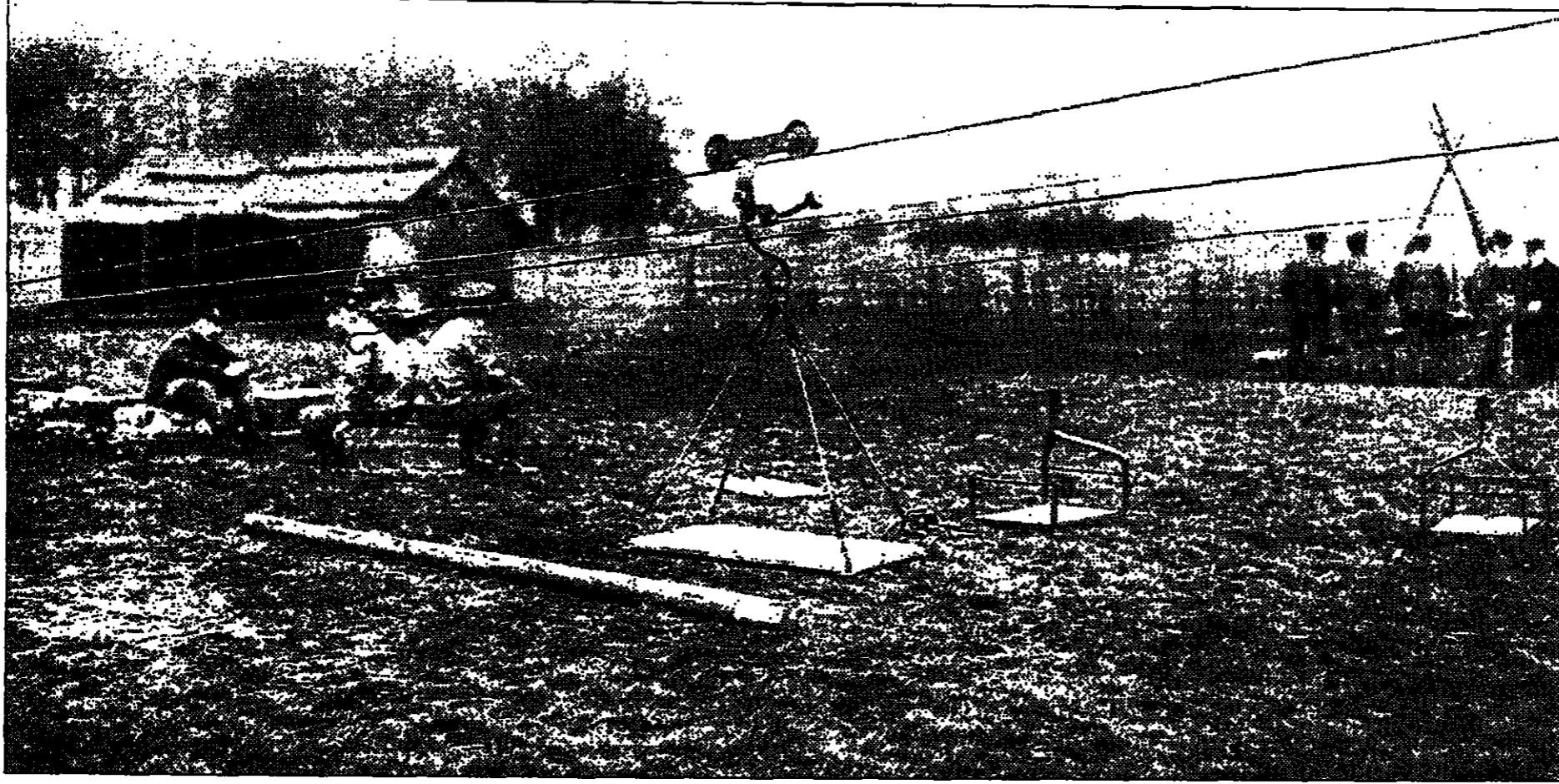
The other children will be sent to specialist care centres around Britain.

The British government confirmed over the weekend that it will evacuate two more children, a boy aged 9 with leukaemia and a boy aged 5 with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Both will almost certainly die if they do not receive emergency treatment.

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Leader comment, page 8



Flying machine... H.G. Wells's aerial ropeway system, invented for delivering ammunition to the trenches in 1914-1918 but snubbed by the "tin hats" — or so he thought

Lost in time, H.G. Wells's secret life-saver



Gwen North, of the H.G. Wells Society, with lost treasures culled from the archives

John Ezard

A LOST secret invention by the author H.G. Wells, revealed to have saved thousands of soldiers' lives in the first world war, is to be seen in public for the first time.

A scale model of Wells's "telpherage" or aerial ropeway system, used for delivering ammunition to the trenches, will be part of a museum which the H.G. Wells Society yesterday announced it plans to create at his birthplace in Bromley, Kent.

The invention will stand beside models of his imaginary time machine and of his "land ironclad", a forerunner of the tank — outlined in 1903.

The ropeway design — which he handed to Winston Churchill, the then minister of munitions, over lunch — was his only invention to be realised. But Wells died in 1946 without knowing this.

"The tin hats didn't like it," he wrote dejectedly.

Wells attended an early test of the design at Richmond, but heard nothing more. A 151-page Internal War Office report written in 1919, describing its development and successful use on the Western Front, was withheld from him, his family and later scholars under the 50-year rule and later destroyed in the Blitz.

The truth has come to light thanks to 20 years of detective work by a member of the H.G. Wells society executive.

Gwen North, researching in the Public Records Office in Kew, she discovered that a



H.G. Wells — writer and, unknown to him, inventor

copy of the official report had been misfiled among air force records. This had saved it.

Wells's book *Experiment in Autobiography* tells how he thought of the ropeway in bed in London after returning from a tour of the trenches. He had been appalled to see soldiers loaded with ammunition boxes floundering through waterlogged trenches under heavy fire.

"I knew men often drowned and that everyone who got to the front line arrived nearly worn out. Suddenly I saw that this was an entirely avoidable strain. I tumbled out of bed and spent the rest of the night planning a mobile telpherage system," he wrote.

The War Office report discloses that the petrol-driven ropeway was tested secretly in Purfleet and London in 1917, approved by Churchill, pat-

World of words

□ Herbert George Wells was born in Bromley in 1866, the son of a professional cricketer.

□ He was an apprentice draper, science student and then teacher.

□ His first successful book was *The Time Machine* (1895). Along with *The War of the Worlds* (1898) it was among the pioneers in the genre of science fiction.

□ Besides novels, Wells also wrote books predicting the future — about which he was boundlessly optimistic — and tomes on politics.

□ He joined the Fabians and was a committed socialist. In the 1930s, he met Roosevelt and Stalin.

□ Married young, to his cousin, he became a legendary philanthropist and "free love" was an important part of his world view. His most famous mistress was the writer Rebecca West, with whom he had a son, the writer Anthony West.

□ The second world war extinguished his optimism.

□ He died in despair at the human race.

ented by the army's trench warfare department and used in several campaigns before the last battles at Ypres.

It needed less than a tenth of a gallon of petrol to carry a ton of supplies and 15 soldiers could transport as much as 1,500 to 2,000 soldiers had under the old back-packing system — "to say nothing of the saving of life".

Mrs North clinched her research, which is so far chronicled only in the 100-member H.G. Wells Society's newsletter, by tracing Wil-

liam Tilley, a veteran who saw the ropeway in action.

She said: "People are alive today who owe their existence to this invention. How wonderful if Wells could have seen this report and how tragic that he didn't. He was very depressed in old age because he thought he had not done enough good in the world."

The society plans to draw on one of its leading members, science fiction writer Arthur C. Clarke, to help raise £300,000 and is applying to the Millennium Fund.

Britain to discuss landmine policy after US hints at ban

Martin Walker in Washington

SENIOR British officials from the Cabinet Office and Ministry of Defence will fly to Washington this week to discuss a possible ban on landmines which is being weighed by the Pentagon.

Britain is faced with international isolation after America's top general decided that landmines are becoming morally indefensible, and the US should join other Nato allies in reassessing their defence of the anti-personnel device as a legitimate weapon.

General John Shalikashvili, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, has ordered a full review of the US policy, spurred on by the prospect of US military casualties from the thickly strewn minefields of Bosnia. His own inclination, Gen Shalikashvili told fellow commanders, was to ban the things outright.

With that statement, the top US military officer joined those accused last October by British Foreign Office minister David Davis of "sacrificing the effectiveness of our armed forces on the altar of political correctness".

Ambassador Madeleine Albright, just back from a trip to Angola, where tens of thousands of people have been and are still being crippled by mines, warned that the current US policy would not lead to the announced goal of eliminating landmines "within all our lifetimes".

She cited a report from the

US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency which said that there were some 100 million landmines deployed around the world, killing and wounding 600 people a month, with another 2 million being laid each year. By contrast, international efforts at mine-clearing in places such as Angola, Cambodia, Somalia and the Balkans, remove perhaps 100,000 mines a year.

Britain has stood squarely with the former US position, that mines were dreadful weapons, but for the moment still had their place. The US and Britain had agreed at the Weapons Convention Review Conference in Vienna that it made sense to proceed with developing "smart" mines, which contained sensors and codes which allowed them to be located in the future, and which self-destructed after a certain period.

British officials from the MoD and Cabinet Office, of deputy-secretary and under-secretary rank, will discuss a range of disarmament issues with their US allies, from chemical weapons to implementation of the strategic arms treaties with Russia.

The campaign to abolish mines has built a powerful momentum since the International Red Cross decided last autumn to take up the cause.

Britain maintains that it has neither manufactured nor exported anti-personnel landmines since the 1980s, but British-made mines were dug up in 1993 in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Croatia, Mozambique, Vietnam and Somalia.

EU fisheries chief tells Cornish trawlermen of need for reform

Geoffrey Gibbs

ACALL for Europe-wide talks to reform the Common Fisheries Policy was issued by the European fisheries commissioner, Emma Bonino, when she visited fishing communities in the South-west yesterday.

Mrs Bonino was left in no doubt about the region's unhappiness with European fishing regulations, and the bitterness felt towards Brussels over quotas and "quota-hopping", under which foreign-owned vessels registered in Britain can fish against British quotas. But she defused much of the hostility by acknowledging that the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) needed reform.

In a hall decked with ban-



Emma Bonino: balancing capacity with resources

ners reading "Save Britain's Fish". Mrs Bonino told Brixham fishermen: "I don't think the CFP is perfect. I think there is scope to improve it."

Withdrawal was a matter for the people of Britain and its government. But she added: "I strongly believe it is better to improve the existing policy. My goal is to find an equilibrium between fishing capacity and fishing resources."

Jim Portus, chief executive of the South-West Fish Producers Organisation, said: "British fishermen and British people and our elected officials in Parliament are not going to lie belly up like a dead cod while Brussels takes over our rich fisheries resources and creates a European fishing fleet which would inevitably be Spanish in the South-west and Dutch in the North Sea."

On the quayside in Newlyn, where feelings still run high after the "tuna wars" with Spain, Mrs Bonino was strongly criticised by fishermen.

Mick Mahon, a leading figure in the "Maple Leaf" campaign to support Canada in its fishing dispute with Spain, said yesterday Mrs Bonino had said in the past persuaded him and most other fishermen to call for Britain's withdrawal from the CFP.

Sam Lambourne, chairman of the Cornish Fish Producers' Organisation, said there was no future for the industry without changes to the CFP. But the meeting with Mrs Bonino had given him hope.

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Attack on Tory shooting lobby, and the licensing system that 'rubber stamped' the renewal for Dunblane killer

Mellor calls for MPs to back ban on handguns

Rebecca Smithers on ex-minister's plea

THE former Home Office minister, David Mellor, is urging MPs from all parties to back him in pressing for a ban on handguns...

He was a Home Office minister at the time of the 1987 Hungerford tragedy when Michael Ryan gunned down 16 people...



Mourners leaving Dunblane cathedral after yesterday's service (top), while those unable to get inside the crowded church shared their sorrow in the cemetery, above. Police on duty at Dunblane primary school shed tears as they observed the minute's silence

'In the fatal, frightening moments in a school gymnasium, God's heart was the first of all our hearts to break'

'The Christian response to such tragedy is not silence, but rather fervent prayer to God for the victims, their families, the community and our society'

'The ugly spectre of violence is beaten by the simple things of peace'

'Human words are inadequate in the face of such tragedy'

Media told to let victims' families mourn in peace

SCOTTISH police have issued stern warnings to the press against intruding on the privacy of Dunblane families as the first of the victims' funerals are held today.

informed personally by families that this intrusion is continuing unabated, he said in a statement to all news organisations.

Lord Wakeham, chairman of the Press Complaints Commission, yesterday appealed to the media to reduce the scale of their presence in Dunblane.

Queen and country silent in mourning

continued from page 1
mourning humanity," he speculated. In the south wall of the 13th century cathedral, a window shows the meeting of a mother and child in heaven.

Mr McIntosh's only allusion to the gunman who killed the pupils and their teacher came in a defence of divine will. "Nothing angers me so much as our failure sometimes to get it through our heads that God doesn't go around with his finger on the trigger," he said.

them to know how to behave. Politeness demanded a certain enthusiasm, but enthusiasm jarred with the circumstances. Most people settled for a terse smile.

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STARLIGHT EXPRESS

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MARTIN GUERRE
ELVIS
ROYAL COURT
SANDY OTT
ANGELA THORNE COMMUNICATING
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LAST 5 WEEKS
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

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THEATRE 50
FUNNY MONEY
MARTIN GUERRE
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ROYAL COURT
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'Giveaway' privatisation of 60,000 homes on military estates will damage private market, say critics

MoD hits its lowest paid

David Hencke and James Meikle

THE LOWEST paid armed forces families are to lose half their staged pay rise in a "double whammy" of rent increases and privatisation, the Ministry of Defence has admitted in a series of answers to Labour MPs.

Critics warn that the deal could damage the private housing market and renege on promises to the homeless. Opposition MPs have attacked the package as a giveaway and some backbench Tories are also thought to be unhappy at the planned disposal in one fell swoop of most married quarters.

rent rises of up to 25 per cent but will still pay only £30 a week for the most expensive homes owned by the MoD. The size of the rent increases are hidden in the small print of the armed forces pay review and were confirmed by ministers to

the sale of estate, being handled by NatWest Markets. Most homes are post war, two and three-bedroom semi-detached or terraced homes. Flats, maisonettes, large detached houses, community centres, sports fields and play areas are also up for sale.

are the ones who will suffer the most. "It also suggests the Ministry of Defence's housing plans are in a state of chaos because they are desperate to raise money through privatisation. If you are clever you don't sell at the bottom of the market."

release all these houses on the market, there will be problems with other people trying to sell their homes." The ministry said that it had a long term aim to phase out rent subsidies. The independent pay review body has also made sure that no rent rises will exceed the total pay rise after tax.

'It looks like the lowest ranks are the ones who will suffer the most'

David Clark, Labour's defence spokesman and John Speller, MP for Warley West. The rises look certain to be only the first of a series over 25 years according to the information released by the ministry in the prospectus for

'There will be problems with other people trying to sell their homes'

Liam Golding, Labour MP for Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire and chairwoman of the all-party parliamentary group on homelessness and housing need, said the deal threatened to be a giveaway. "If you suddenly

'Loyalty' bar limits Irish in Civil Service

Alan Travis Home Affairs Editor

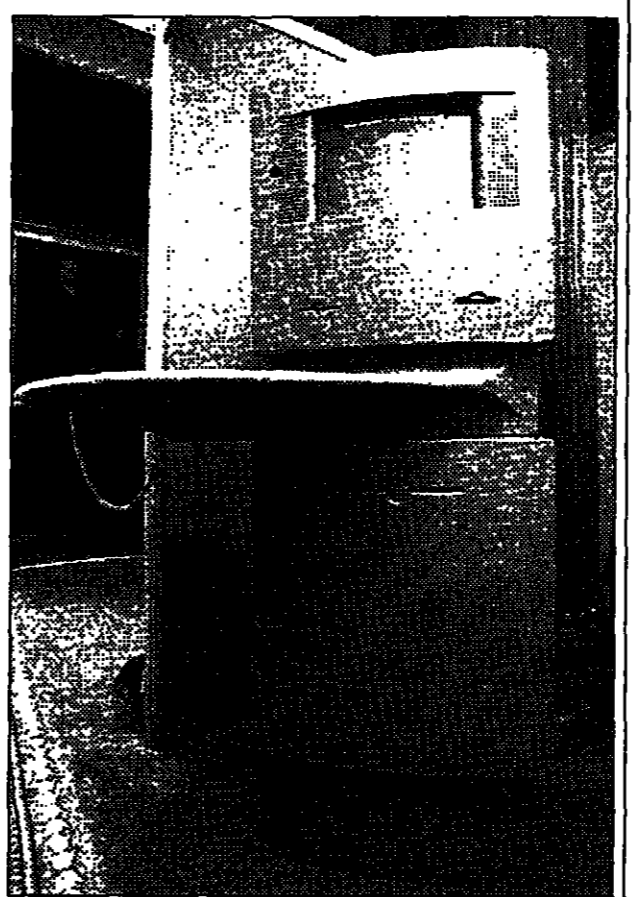
IRISH and Commonwealth citizens are to be banned from applying for up to 125,000 civil service jobs from June as a result of a cabinet decision to eradicate the "anomalies" in a European Union labour market directive.

not affect Irish Republic or Commonwealth citizens who were already working in these sensitive jobs on May 31. Roger Freeman, the employment minister, has told the Commons that the change is needed to address "certain anomalies" which had arisen after British law was amended three years ago to allow other EU nationals to apply for certain Civil Service posts.

Multilingual, touch-screen successor to police 'TARDIS'



The once familiar police box and, right, its hi-tech replacement which will begin trials soon in London and Scotland



YEARS after the familiar blue police box, made famous by Dr Who, disappeared from the streets, its hi-tech, multi-lingual, touch-screen replacement has arrived, writes Duncan Campbell. A prototype will be making its debut on the streets of east London in a few weeks. The new box is part of a project called ATTACH, the somewhat tortuous acronym for the Advanced TransEuropean Telematics Applications for Communications Help, which may not yet have quite the same *frisson* as Dr Who's TARDIS.

placed at first in shopping centres, council offices, and attached to police stations. The experiment will be part-funded by the European Commission and similar tests will be carried out simultaneously in Scotland, Sweden, the Netherlands and Greece. Gary Fitzpatrick, of the Metropolitan Police's department of technology, said: "Eventually it could be used for showing your driving licence or for paying a fine."

Drought-hit water firm looks to Channel tunnel pipeline

ADROUGHT-HIT water company is negotiating an emergency pipeline through the Channel tunnel to import drinking water from France. Folkestone and Dover Water Services hopes the tunnel's fire hydrant can carry water, the 30 miles from Calais join the public supply at the Eurotunnel terminal at Cheriton, near Folkestone, Kent.

ering setting up a desalination plant on the Kent coast and even importing water by tanker from Norway. Company secretary Jim Lowe said yesterday: "We are determined to maintain our supplies and avoid standpipes." Eurotunnel, which owns a consortium of 225 banks more than £2 billion, has welcomed the scheme. A spokesman said: "We are investigating this as a matter of urgency. The problem is our need for instant access to the water supply, at full pressure, 24 hours a day for safety reasons. The effect of the scheme on this is being worked out very carefully. There can be no compromise on safety."

Police hunt for 'armed' boy after rifle shot hits car

A 14-YEAR-OLD boy believed to be armed with a haul of stolen guns and ammunition was at the centre of an extensive police search last night. Robert Crawley, described as dangerous and not to be approached, disappeared from his home in Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire, on Friday. Thames Valley Police confirmed that a person fitting the description of the missing teenager opened fire at a passing car on Saturday afternoon. They want to question the boy about the theft of a cache of arms early on Friday night.

stepped up the search following the shooting incident on Saturday. Superintendent Young said: "We are using a helicopter, police dogs and some armed officers have been deployed to the area. We appeal to anyone who may know where this boy is to contact us immediately and not to approach him. It is essential we trace him as soon as possible. We are most concerned for his safety." Superintendent Young confirmed that a youth matching Robert's description had fired a shot from a rifle which hit a passing car in Welders Lane, Chalfont St Peter at 3.30pm on Saturday. The window of the car was shattered but the driver, although badly shaken, was not injured. The missing schoolboy is described as white, 5ft 6in, of slim build with fair hair, a pale complexion and blue eyes. When he went missing he was wearing a grey Adidas jumper with three stripes at the bottom, a black bomber jacket, with black boots and jeans.

informative:

first direct **Cheque Rate** With effect from 18 March 1996, the First Direct Cheque and Premier Cheque Account rate for unauthorised borrowing is reduced by 0.6% to 22.2% p.a. (EAR 24.6% variable).

Her eldest daughter overheard someone at school 'saying I was a slag who enjoyed sex and only reported things when they got a bit rough and did it for money.' Victim of the Wests

News in brief

Hunt for bombers moves to Ulster

DETECTIVES hunting the IRA's Canary Wharf bombers are expected to travel to Northern Ireland this week. Commander John Grievie, head of the anti-terrorist branch, is to meet with senior Royal Ulster Constabulary officers trying to trace the movements of the lorry used to transport the 1,000lb bomb. Police believe the flat-backed transporter was modified somewhere in the border region of South Armagh, but security sources in Belfast said yesterday that the terrorist team responsible had not been identified. Two men were killed and another 40 people injured in the blast in Docklands, east London, on February 9.

Woman kills sons then herself

A MAN who came home to find his wife had killed their two sons and then killed herself was being comforted by his family in south Wales last night. Isabelle Williams, aged 41, stabbed Stefan, aged 11, with a carving knife as he slept and then overpowered and stabbed the other son, 14-year-old Rhodri. She then plunged the knife several times into her own stomach. She left seven letters to family members explaining her actions. Her husband Haydn, a 32-year-old accountant, arrived back at the family house in Swinton, Wiltshire, on Friday evening to discover police already there. Inquests will be held.

Fishermen's bodies found

THE bodies of two men who went out in a 17ft dinghy to spend the night fishing off Anglesey were found yesterday near the port of Caernarfon, Gwynedd. The first body, that of Carl Griffiths, aged 24, was found on a beach by coastguards, together with the upturned boat. Then a relative reported two fishermen overdue, and a search began. An RAF helicopter spotted the second body, that of Gwilym Roberts, aged 30, in shallow water. Both men were from Caernarfon.

Drugs campaign pays off

A CAMPAIGN urging young people to inform on drug dealers has been hailed as "an outstanding success". The Crimestoppers organisation said yesterday that since its SNAP - Say No And Phone - drive launched last October there have been 6,818 positive calls about drugs alone, a 71 per cent increase. Over the period there have been 867 arrests for drug-related crime, and drugs worth £1.8 million have been seized.

Boys make mothers wait

EXPECTANT mothers carrying sons have to wait longer for labour to begin - but once the delivery gets under way boys are faster. A survey indicates that, on average, boys are born 41 to 42 weeks, compared to an average of 39 weeks, according to SHE magazine's Having A Baby. But sons take an average of nine hours to enter the world compared with nearly 10 hours for girls. The magazine questioned more than 1,000 new mothers.

Boom in South Africa holidays

MORE than 209,000 Britons visited South Africa in 1995 - a 52 per cent increase on 1994, according to the South African tourist board in London. One of the new UK-South Africa travel links has been the emergence of British Airways charter flights. In addition, South African Airways now operates 12 scheduled flights a week to South Africa from Heathrow.

57 share lottery jackpot

SATURDAY'S £8.3 million National Lottery jackpot was split between 57 winners - the second highest total in the game's history. The 57 winners will each receive £145,859. The winning numbers were 2, 12, 15, 28, 38, 48, and the bonus ball was 45.

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Croats who supped with the devil

Ed Vulliamy in Jajce reveals how Croat commanders and gangsters conspired to supply fuel to the other side, even videotaping a mock battle to fool the outside world, in a betrayal of both their Muslim partners and their own troops



BOSNIA'S war ended last year after Croat and Muslim allies drove their common Serb enemy into retreat, cutting a swath across western Bosnia. The Muslim-Croat Federation, forged with United States backing, is a cornerstone of international policy in the Balkans.

But the Federation is fraught with tensions, and the Guardian has uncovered details of a murky backstage alliance between the Croats and their supposed Serb enemy, designed to engineer a quick end to the war.

This secret alliance defies the Dayton agreement. Its discovery will also cut to the hearts of Muslims who trusted their Croatian partners, and Croats to whom alliance with Serbia is an obscenity, as they mourn the wreckage of the Danube city of Vukovar and count the Croat victims of Serb concentration camps.

Croatia supplied the Bosnian Serbs with fuel throughout crucial phases of the war, long after the Federation was founded. Investigations show a Croat hardline *eminentia grise* in the Federation, Mladen Naletilic, to have been an agent for the Belgrade secret service since 1989.

Angry Croatian soldiers reveal how Kresimir Zubak — the federation president on whom the US relies to implement the Dayton accord — forged alliances with Serbs on the battlefield. A Croat commander-cum-gangster, indicted by The Hague war crimes tribunal for a massacre, emerges as the key link in a Serb-Croat axis.

The deal begins with General Djukic, the Serb logistics chief who fell into Bosnian government hands in January and was revealed in the Guardian last month to be a Yugoslav army general indicted by The Hague war crimes court for a massacre in Croatia. Gen Djukic says he is "not

under interrogation after his capture last month. Despite denials from his lawyers, he made statements about his involvement in the war, while under interrogation in Sarajevo and awaiting extradition to Holland. These confessions detail a quiet pro quo arrangement between his army and the Croats.

Bosnia's war was fought in the wake of a meeting between Croatia's President Franjo Tudjman and Serbia's Slobodan Milosevic in spring 1991 at Karadjordjevo, Serbia. The agenda was the division of Bosnia into two "ethnically pure" states with "just a bit left", as Mr Tudjman later put it, for the Muslims.

The scheme disappeared in the fog of war. Even the Croat-Muslim war in 1993 was consigned to history by skillful US diplomacy and the Dayton accord. But on the ground, the Serbo-Croat cease-fire remained alive.

Gen Djukic knew that an army marches on its petrol tank, that fuel is its lifeblood. He said as much in the four-sheet "additional statement" he gave his captors on February 6 this year. Each sheet is signed, and the general affirms: "This statement corresponds to what I have said, and I accept it as my own. The authorities behaved correctly."

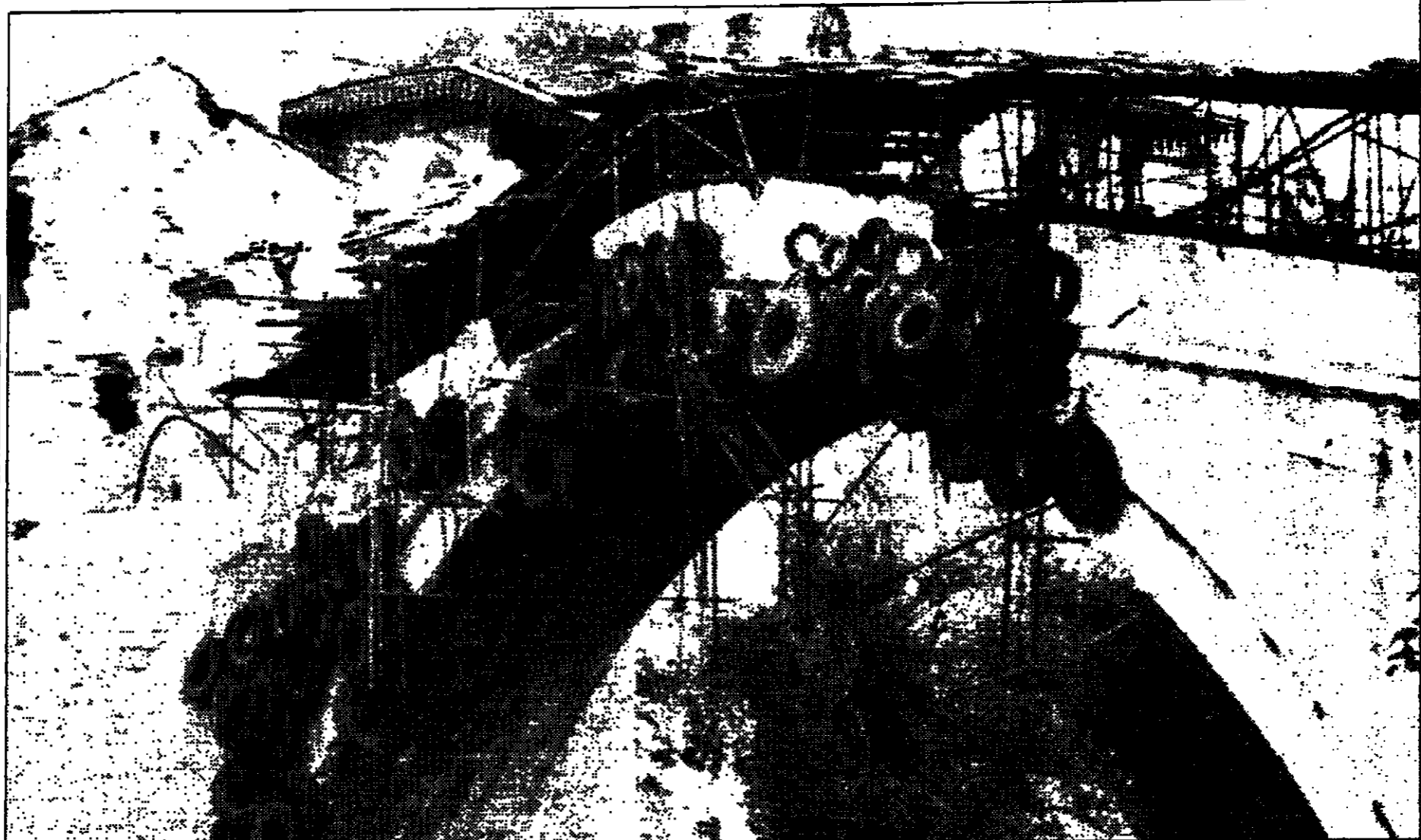
TO MOVE his Yugoslav tanks, troops, artillery and munitions into and across Bosnia, Gen Djukic needed a minimum of 50 tonnes of fuel a month. Despite the embargo on Yugoslavia and a supposed embargo by Yugoslavia on the Bosnian Serbs, Gen Djukic says he had "no problems with supplies of fuel until the beginning of 1995".

Supplies from Yugoslavia had become unreliable by mid-1993. So, Gen Djukic says, the Bosnian Serb prime minister, Vladimir Lukic, began negotiations with the Croats on his behalf. He was assured that "there wouldn't be any problems with the Croats".

Gen Djukic recalls meetings with the Croats in the no-man's-land village of Rujan, near Grahovo. They were attended by the Serb defence minister, Vukobratovic, and the vice-president of the "Herzeg-Bosna" Croat statelet, Jadranko Pric.

Gen Djukic says fuel from the Croatian port of Split was taken in 15-truck convoys, escorted by the Croatian police, to be handed over at Rujan or Solac, near Mostar.

The deal "continued for about 18 months... until the end of 1994" — nearly a year after the cessation of Croat-Muslim hostilities and the founding of the Federation. Gen Djukic says he is "not



Split asunder... Mostar bridge, a symbol of unity since Ottoman times, cemented with egg-white and goat hair, was blown up by Croat troops in 1993. PHOTOGRAPH: CORINNE DUKA

familiar with the financial aspects", but sometimes the fuel was free, in return for "the transport of Croatian populations across Serb territory as Muslims fled before the Croat-held town of Vares. There was a massacre on the Vares front, in the Muslim village of Stupni Do, where a unit of the Bosnian Croat army (HVO) murdered 16 civilians. Its leader, Ivica Rajic, has been indicted by The Hague.

Captain Rajic was a familiar and menacing figure in the hardline Croat town of Kiseljak. A former Yugoslav army captain, he had come to command the HVO's 2nd Operational Group. He was an impeccably anti-Serb Croat nationalist. But Gen Djukic recalls him in another role.

"The continued transactions over fuel were the result of contact between our intelligence officers... and members of the HVO, the main one being a person called Capt Rajic from Kiseljak," Gen Djukic says. Capt Rajic organised shipments of fuel, and the HVO, in return, provided intelligence on the Serbs, with the chief of Serb intelligence, Colonel Petr Salapora.

Kiseljak thrived on Serbian business and held the keys to the black market in besieged Sarajevo. When the time came for the Muslims and Croat allies to try to break the siege in summer 1995, the HVO had private doubts.

Kiseljak was also the headquarters of the United Nations body Unprofor, intelligence writers on local military communications reveal

the sabotage of the joint offensive by the HVO.

The HVO was assigned to attack a key Serb stronghold, Kokosa. But a phone call on July 18 between the Serb deputy security commander, Marko Lugonja, and an intermediary called Zdzanko reveals a plan for the Serbs to let the Croats film a supposed victory on Serb territory to "fool the international community and the Muslims".

A Serb Major Bukva tells Zdzanko: "They [the Croats] are bringing their TV... but make sure they come without their personal weapons. You must give them the weapons up there, without ammunition, of course. Let them make a video film of the whole thing so it looks real."

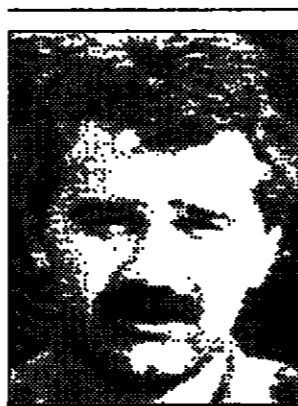
To some Croat soldiers in central Bosnia, co-operation with the Serb enemy was "unthinkable". The men of the HVO's 110th Brigade fighting near Tesanj were appalled by the neighbouring 111th Brigade at Zepce fighting alongside the Serbs.

The men, now back home in Jajce, recall the extraordinary moment of their war. On April 3 1993, the deputy president of "Herzeg-Bosna" (now President Zubak) breezed across their front lines from Serb territory.

The Croat soldiers, including Zubak, were holding meetings with General Major Momir Talic, the Serb commander in Banja Luka, and Colonel Vladimir Arsic of Prijedor — former director of Manjaca concentration camp in which both Croats and Muslims were tortured.

A Croat soldier called Darko P. from Blatnica, recalls Mr Zubak requesting his 110th Brigade to engage in "complementary action" with a Serb unit, "South", to secure a road. The brigade refused.

On August 5 1993, Mr Zubak again crossed into 110th brigade country from the Serb side. He had met a Serb major, Mirko Slavulica, to discuss bringing the two units together.



Ivica Rajic's hardline Croat town of Kiseljak thrived on Serbian business and held the keys to the black market in besieged Sarajevo

should withdraw from the region, leaving Serbs to subdue the Muslims. There was a furious response, after which Mr Zubak is reported to have said: "Very well, do what you like. But you are on your own, in a minority."

President Zubak declined to respond to these allegations at the weekend, but an official at his headquarters denied he favoured alliance with the Serbs.

It is hard for Arminka

nades. By evening, every house in the village was burned, many were killed and people had fled into the hills.

She fled with her son Mirsad to Muslim Jablanica. Her account is borne out by a Croat prisoner in Jablanica, Zjelko Ivanovic, a member of the Punishment Squad. He told his Muslim captors that the squad commander was a powerful figure in "Herzeg-Bosna", Mladen Naletilic, known as "Tuta".

Tuta became the HVO's head man in Croat Mostar, scene of a ferocious siege against the Muslim quarter and of recent tensions in the Federation. On September 12 1993, he took 30 Muslim prisoners from the Croat camp at Rodoc, outside Mostar, to use as human shields on the front. Many were killed. There are several testimonies on Tuta's conduct in Mostar, including allegations that his soldiers violated Muslim women.

Tuta has unimpeachable Croat nationalist credentials. In exile in Australia and Germany, he campaigned against the Yugoslav regimes, both communist and Serbian nationalist. He was fundraiser for *Hrvatsko Ogrniste* (Croatian Hearth), a neo-Ustasha group nostalgic for the Nazi puppet regime. In 1990, he returned to Croatia, and then to Herzegovina on the eve of the Yugoslav onslaught. But Tuta was working for the Yugoslavs.

On September 18 1993, the SDB secret police in the then Socialist Republic of Bosnia sent a memo to Belgrade

headquarters (obtained by the Guardian) recommending "Operation Marlboro" — the recruitment of a new agent. The candidate was Mr Naletilic, the owner of a casino restaurant at the resort of Bodense. He had helped to shelter an Ustasha "terrorist" whom the memo accuses of killing a government official called Gazilje.

The memo recalls that "On April 20 [1993], Mladen made phone contact saying he was ready to engage in close contact with our service in Germany and abroad, and will tell us all he knows about the work of the émigrés. He asked for guarantees that he could one day return to his country without difficulties."

The memo, signed by the Sarajevo-based deputy head of the SDB, Sredjko Novic, recommends that "if we engage Mladen Naletilic as a collaborator with our service, we will have a greatly improved quality of information about the Ustasha émigrés in Germany and all over."

A paragraph attached to the memo, signed and stamped by Petar Gracanin, President Milosevic's interior minister, says: "According to regulation 109 of the SDB rules, I have decided to initiate Operation Marlboro, to make close contact and to engage for collaboration Mladen Naletilic."

Small wonder that, alongside Capt Rajic's Kiseljak, Tuta's fiefdom of Mostar and Solac was the crucial junction for the joint endeavour of Croats and Serbs.

Bećevic to put the "forgotten" war between Croats and Muslims out of her mind. She remembers the day the HVO's *Čizarićeva Bojna* (Punishment Squad) came to her village.

Sovici is perched between Tomislavgrad and Prozor. "They came early in the morning with red ribbons on their uniforms," Ms Bećevic says. "They began shooting into houses, throwing gra-

Leader comment, page 8

Despairing French police turn guns on themselves

Paul Webster in Paris

WITH 14 police suicides recorded in France since the beginning of the year, extra welfare workers are being recruited and more help lines are being opened to try to stop the effects of widespread depression.

There was already concern last year when 39 policemen committed suicide, most of them using their service revolvers. There are fears that the total could be double that in 1996 — a far higher rate than the national average — unless emergency measures are taken.

There were two suicides last week: a police lieutenant shot himself in Paris on Friday and a CRS riot squad member hanged himself in northern France on Saturday. Both incidents were prompted by familiar complaints of poor conditions, overwork and a feeling of being isolated by public opinion.

The French experience reflects high suicide rates among the RUC in Northern Ireland and the American police, where service revolvers are also used for most suicides. The sudden increase in police suicides in France, where every officer is armed, follows a period of intense pressure

on uniformed police and detectives.

Last year their work programme was the heaviest for a long time because of Algerian Islamic bomb attacks and worker-student protests in which police were often the target of hostility.

The biggest strain has been in poor immigrant suburbs where there have been riots almost every week. This weekend, police fought running battles with gangs in the eastern city of Rhelms, after a bus driver was shot at. Police were on 24-hour alert in several cities and high-rise estates.

Both the Paris policeman and the CRS man were on sick leave because of depression worsened by family problems — a typical cause of suicide, according to Jean-Louis Araujo, secretary-general of the uniformed police union, the SGP. A union spokesman, Guy Maurin, said officers with family problems often received no sympathy from their superiors at work.

The union installed an emergency helpline which has received hundreds of calls. A complaints register contains a wide variety of distress stories, many linked to contact with poverty and violence arising from economic recession.

The complaints register also includes reports of racism

and abuse by senior officers. One West Indian policewoman said white colleagues sprayed air freshener in the office every time she entered. Other officers said they were persecuted as punishment guard duties as punishment, particularly during bomb scares.

The biggest problems arise in the Paris region, where most uniformed officers are brought in from the provinces because public contempt for police in the capital has made recruiting difficult. But 14,000 of the 24,000 in the region have asked to be sent back home.

"Many were drafted to violent suburbs around the capital where their wives and children were subjected to systematic abuse or physical attack," Mr Maurin said.

Last week's suicides prompted the interior ministry to call a meeting with union leaders later this week. So far, no one has called for a firearms review, but unions say much remains to be done if a crisis is to be avoided.

An off-duty New York policeman committed suicide by shooting himself in the head in a Times Square theatre on Saturday, wounding two women sitting near him at a crowded rock concert, police said.

World news in brief

Papua separatists stay firm on hostages

SEPARATIST rebels holding 11 hostages including four Britons and the Irish Joyce Kilmer, said they would not release them until their demands for a hard line about their release in a statement published in a Jakarta newspaper yesterday.

But a military spokesman said a hostage released at the weekend had told authorities that the rebels were giving up their demands.

"We will hold the hostages until there is an acknowledgement from the government and the world community," leaders of the Free Papua Movement (OPM) said in a letter published in the Kompas daily.

"We took the hostages with the aim of demanding an acknowledgement from the Indonesian government and the international world that there is a state of West Papua," Keith Ewells and Daniel Kogoya were quoted as saying. The letter, a written reply to questions, was dated March 2.

On Saturday the OPM released an Indonesian hostage, one of 26 people seized by the separatists on January 8 at Mapuduma. Fourteen others had been released earlier.

Most of the remaining 11 captives — including Britons Daniel Start, Bill Oates, Anna McIvor and Annette van der Voort — were studying near plants when they were seized. — Reuter.

Winnie seeks £3m payoff

Winnie Mandela is seeking about £3.2 million from her estranged husband President Nelson Mandela as her price for a divorce in a bitter feud which is due to go to court today — barring an 11th-hour out-of-court settlement, the City Post newspaper said yesterday.

Mrs Mandela was claiming half her husband's estate, including a share of royalties from his best-selling autobiography and his Nobel peace prize. — Reuter.

Bomb in Algiers

A bomb explosion on Saturday at a rubbish tip in an Algiers suburb killed two people and wounded five, security officials said. — Reuter.

Hollywood racism

Reverend Jesse Jackson will attend next week's Oscars ceremony — to which he is not invited — to protest against Hollywood "racism", writes *Christopher Reed in Los Angeles*. There is only one African-American nominee for this year's awards.

Voter apathy

Low voter turnout and the absence of choice in Zimbabwe's weekend elections could discourage President Robert Mugabe, who is assured of victory because both his rivals for the presidency withdrew before polling. — Reuter.

Russian take-off

The latest version of Russia's supersonic passenger jet,

Rwanda gets first 'bobbies'

WITH helmets, uniforms and batons supplied by Britain, Rwanda's own "bobbies" passed out yesterday in the first wave of civilian police to be deployed since 1994's genocide.

A first group of 750 paraded before officials and diplomats outside their training school in south-eastern Rwanda.

The highlight of the graduation ceremony was a mock demonstration when newly trained riot police fought villagers who attacked them with stones and sticks.

The international tribunal on Rwanda's genocide has said it could start its first trials at the end of May if defence lawyers had time to prepare. The tribunal's registrar, Andronico Adede, said it hoped to begin the trials with two Rwandans held in Zaire, but defence lawyers had not yet been appointed. — Reuter.

Nato troops rescue victims as Sarajevo suburb burns

NATO troops rescued 12 people from burning buildings yesterday and detained a dozen men suspected of looting and arson in a lawless Serb-held suburb of Sarajevo.

Heavily-armed Italian soldiers marched the 12 suspects to the Bosnian Serb police station in Grbavica, which tomorrow becomes the last of five Serb areas handed over to the Muslim-Croat federation under the Dayton peace pact.

But there was no sign that the detentions had discouraged the arson, which Serb authorities have done nothing to stop.

Workers for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said they had counted 23 fires in Grbavica yesterday afternoon. Italian troops went from one fire to another, rescuing civilians. — Reuter.

Saddam halts ear amputations

IRAQ'S leader, Saddam Hussein, has ordered an end to the practice of cutting off the ears of deserters and draft dodgers, the Iraqi News Agency reported yesterday.

The agency also said he had ordered the release of hundreds of imprisoned deserters and draft dodgers.

The decision may be linked to parliamentary elections next Sunday. Human rights monitors say thousands of Iraqis have suffered amputation. — AP.

Winnie seeks £3m payoff

Winnie Mandela is seeking about £3.2 million from her estranged husband President Nelson Mandela as her price for a divorce in a bitter feud which is due to go to court today — barring an 11th-hour out-of-court settlement, the City Post newspaper said yesterday.

Mrs Mandela was claiming half her husband's estate, including a share of royalties from his best-selling autobiography and his Nobel peace prize. — Reuter.

Avalanche victims

Rescuers in the Neelum Valley, Pakistani Kashmir, have found 17 bodies from an avalanche on Friday which is feared to have killed 22 people and buried seven houses, government officials said yesterday. — Reuter.

Missing in action

A lost camel returned to her Kuwaiti owner — pregnant and in good health — five years after straying during the Iraqi occupation in the Gulf war. — Reuter.

Rape allegation

Ten days after three American servicemen were convicted of raping an Okinawa schoolgirl, police yesterday investigated another rape allegedly committed by a foreigner on the island. — AP.

Handle with care

A deputy mayor of the port of Toulon in southern France was critically injured yesterday when a hand grenade exploded in his hands, police said. It was not immediately known why Mr Lopez was handling a grenade. — Reuter.

Ferry disaster

Fifty passengers were feared drowned when a ferry sank in the north-eastern Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh yesterday, the Press Trust of India said. — Reuter.

Wenington
reads
Africa

ebt
elief



Meningitis spreads in Africa

Chris McGreal in Lagos

THE outbreak of spinal meningitis claiming the lives of 100 children a day in Nigeria has spread to a dozen other countries in Africa.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO) more than 6,000 people have died in recent weeks, mostly children under 15. The WHO says well over 300 million Africans are at risk in a belt of countries close to the Sahara, from Mali and Burkina Faso in the west to Sudan in the east.

Nigeria remains the worst hit. Despite mass vaccinations in the northern state of Kano, where the outbreak is thought to have started, the death toll continues to rise across the country.

According to the government's own figures, more than 700 people succumbed to meningitis last week, bringing the total number of victims above 4,000 since January. About another 1,000 have died in simultaneous but unrelated outbreaks of cholera and measles.

Some doctors dispute the official figures, saying the true death toll could be several times higher because of poor data collection, lack of information about what is happening in isolated villages and critical sensitivities over the government's slow response to the crisis.

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), the only international organisation to respond with immediate medical help, warns that while immunisation will save many lives, at best it can only contain the outbreak. The head of the MSF mission, Patrick Vial, predicts that meningitis will continue to claim large numbers of victims until the end of the dry season, in which it thrives.

"It's very, very grave. The crisis is continuing to grow because it's meant to grow. Meningitis works in cycles. We can contain it with vaccinations but it will stop only when the rains come."

It will take MSF another month to vaccinate the 1.8 million people it has targeted for immunisation in Kano state. Although the agency plans to spread immunisation to two of the other badly hit states, Bauchi and Katsina, that will still leave most of those at risk without vaccination for weeks.

Doctors have also been battling to persuade potential victims to react swiftly to signs of the disease. Some children have died because their parents were unable to afford transport to hospitals or feared they would be unable to meet the cost of treatment, and so delayed seeking help until the child was seriously ill. Hospital charges have been waived, but transport remains a problem for many people.

The government's response is having an impact in some areas. It has shipped several million vaccines from Europe. But the military regime appears reluctant to admit the scale of the crisis or to make open appeals for foreign assistance, although it says it welcomes any help.

Up to four people were killed in violence during Nigeria's local council elections, the first step in the country's latest programme of transition to democracy, it was reported yesterday. The elections, held on a non-party basis, marked what the government said was the beginning of the transition to civilian rule.

Mexican debtors demand relief

Phil Gannon in Mexico City

IN MEXICO'S pre-1995 boom years the banks fell over themselves to provide credit, and the spending limit on Oscar Romero Popoca's card would be raised regularly without his even asking.

"I opened the account with a 1,500-peso limit (about £25)," Mr Romero says. "But they eventually raised it to 15,000 pesos."

Then the peso crisis in December 1994 caused the economy to crash and interest rates on credit cards to hit 120 per cent. Now Mr Romero — like hundreds of thousands of other Mexicans — has a debt he cannot pay.

"It's 25,000 pesos, and they're about to take me to court over it," he says.

Along with about 200,000 other debtors, he joined the fast-growing, mainly middle-class movement known as *El Barzon*, the ox-yoke, whose members have suspended payments until the government and the banks agree to a radical debt-reduction scheme.

Working today, the *Barzon* intends to blockade the central bank and every finance ministry office throughout the country.

Members have developed a reputation for spectacular forms of protest — such as removing the *Barzon* from bank branches and depositing them over the counter in lieu of cash.

"There is no stronger or more combative social movement than *El Barzon*," says the organisation's national president, Juan José Quirino. "We are going to make alliances with everyone, from the guerrilla leader Subcomandante Marcos to the church."

The *Barzon* "is one of the groups the government is most afraid of," adds Guadalupe Lanza, who writes a newspaper column on issues affecting Mexico's middle class.

The proposed *Barzon* blockade demonstrates that the group's name, as usual, is impeccable. At the weekend, the chairman of the bankers' association (ABM), Jorge Madariaga, told his colleagues that had debts had grown by 500 per cent since the end of 1994.

A group of debtors scuffled with security guards when they tried to storm the meeting on Saturday in the Caribbean resort of Cancun.

Mr Madariaga said in the most economic crisis in 60 years had brought Mexico's banking system to "the edge of survival".

Under accounting rules due to be introduced next year virtually every Mexican bank would be technically insolvent. They have stayed afloat thanks to a government decision to pump in huge amounts of money — \$20 billion (£12.5 billion) and counting, according to some sources — in what many see as a scandalous bailout of a badly run, but politically powerful sector.

Nationalised during the 1982 debt crisis, the banks were sold back to the private sector between 1988 and 1994 under the now-disgraced former president, Carlos Salinas. Many of those who benefited had little or no banking experience. Some were top industrialists.

An economist, Rogelio Ramirez de la O, said that resolving the current crisis would require "allowing the bankers, though not the banks, to go bust". The government "would end up fighting the private-sector elite — and that is a political decision" (President Ernesto Zedillo has not been willing to take it).

Like the *Barzon*, Dr Ramirez believes that in the absence of economic growth and low interest rates the only solution is for the government to buy the bad debts, recognising that their true worth is perhaps only 50 per cent of their nominal value.

Dr Ramirez said the current policy of "muddling through" while awaiting economic recovery is "like bringing a headless man to treat a patient who's in a coma".

If the policy remains the same, the situation "will explode in a very ugly fashion, before the mid-term congressional elections of 1997".

Mexico's government insists recovery is just around the corner. But unemployment, which had shown signs of falling, is once more on the rise; inflation this year is likely to be well above the 20 per cent target; and the growth rate will, at best, be less than 3 per cent.



YASSER ARAFAT, the Palestinian president, speaks to thousands of demonstrating workers in Gaza yesterday. After a personal briefing by the Central Intelligence Agency, he blamed Iran for orchestrating the suicide bombings that killed 68 people in Israel, writes Martin Walker in Washington.

United States intelligence sources said the CIA had provided Mr Arafat with hard evidence of Iran's role, amounting to "incontrovertible proof".

"I have the right to ask, 'Who ordered the latest violent attacks?' Iran, Iran ordered them," Mr Arafat told the crowd.

PHOTOGRAPH: FAYEZ NURELDINE

Families enslaved by a life of casual brutality

Suzanne Goldenberg in Matli, Sind province, reports on the rehabilitation of Pakistanis freed from bonded labour

LIKE his grandfather and father before him, Rupo Akoli was born a slave, and all his days were the same: long, hard hours in sugar cane fields, with a coil of rope hissing through the air towards his shoulders when he faltered under the burning sun.

They were leg-irons in the field and were made to squat at wooden posts before they were chained for the night. They were beaten when the landlord was drunk or had guests to entertain, and were paid only in flour, in such miserly quantities that for several days every month they ate grass.

"If we even took an onion from the field, the landlord used to beat us," Rupo said.

Otherwise, they survived by gulping down a paste of uncooked flour and water and the occasional chili; the landlord wouldn't spare the cooking fuel.

Forty-eight hours after human rights activists and police led Rupo out of bondage, the bazaar in this nondescript town remains a source of wonder for him. Rupo has walked into town three times this afternoon, a slow shuffle in phantom chains.

Neither Rupo, aged about 40, nor his father can remember the original debt that reduced the family from free men to bonded labourers, but after years of back-breaking and unpaid labour on sugar cane plantations it had unaccountably grown to 118,000 rupees (£2,360).

They say there are already two short stretches of an almost natural river — Sepulveda Basin and Griffith Park — which could be extended into a landscaped flood plain. This would not only accommodate excess water, but could encourage wildlife. People might one day cycle beside the river, past such forgotten wonders as willow trees.

But the lobbyists are up against one of the most implacable enemies of the United States environmental movement: the US Army Corps of Engineers. The Corps's civilian construction division, which has been responsible for the de-

struction of many wild rivers in the name of flood control, began pouring cement on the Los Angeles River bed in the 1930s.

It may now be the world's most cemented river. Its 51-mile run from the high school playing field to the sea at Long Beach is mostly invisible behind concrete banks, fenced off and pad-

locked behind "No Trespassing" notices. No dry part of the riverbed is used to train bus drivers.

The river flows east through the suburban sprawl of the San Fernando valley, and skirts downtown LA, before running south by the Golden Gate freeway to the Pacific. Its entire length offers only

done: with casual brutality. Bonded labour was outlawed only in 1982. Shakesel Ahmed Pathan, the Sind representative of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, argues that officials are reluctant to enforce the law, partly because they are themselves from landed families, and partly for fear of offending the most powerful people in the land.

Many of Pakistan's leading politicians are landlords, including the prime minister, Benazir Bhutto, and demands for agricultural reform in the past have met with fierce resistance.

Sind's agricultural wealth depends on bonded labour, mostly tribal (meaning indigenous) or so-called unouchable Hindus, called *harris*, for labour-intensive and highly profitable cash crops like sugar cane which are replacing traditional agriculture.

For the *harris* living on vast banana or sugar estates, the landlords are akin to God: quick to anger, slow to forgive, and answerable to no one. They rule unencumbered by such modern niceties as land reform, taxation, trade unions or rights legislation.

"All landlords think that *harris* are their property," Mr Pathan said.

So much so that landlord Ibrahim Mangrio did not worry about witnesses when he grabbed Meran Devi by the hair and dragged her into a field. "He would rape me in front of my mother, he would rape me in front of the entire world," Meran said.

Hanif, the bewildered-looking eight-year-old burrowed into her side, is the living proof of her shame. She said his father's only concern for

escape, said Meran's mother, Jhama Devi. The estate was patrolled by armed guards. "We died there; we were born and married there. We didn't leave his land for 22 years."

But, with the intervention of human rights activists who bombard officials with complaints about bonded labour or sometimes raid estates to liberate *harris*, about 1,000 peasants have been freed.

For their pains, Mr Pathan said, the activists have been beaten and threatened with reprisals; several landlords have turned up at his office in Hyderabad demanding that he pay for the *harris* he has taken away. Despite an encouragement of freed *harris* to file complaints about bonded labour at the local police station, the local police chief denies all knowledge of bonded labour in his district.

The rude shelters of thatch and wood where Rupo and Jhama Devi live with 400 to 500 other recently freed *harris* are the local equivalent of the "bonded labour railway" in the southern US states before the civil war.

The *harris* remain desperately poor. Most have only one set of clothes and a few battered kitchen utensils. But they are beginning to find work as paid farm labourers, taking home 80 rupees a day. As the fear of being recaptured by their landlords lessens, the *harris* chart their own physical transformation. They stand straighter, and learn to speak above a whisper.

"Now I am becoming less and less black," Jhama Devi said. She had never been able to wash properly before.

The *harris* have a temporary protector in the local church, but the Irish priest in Matli, Father Tomas King, originally from Galway, describes their freedom as tenuous. The *harris* are too unused to independence to know how to avoid falling into debt. Some of them have become trapped again.

"In the bonded system you have nothing, but at least the landlord looks after you, you have security. Even if you are a slave you belong to someone," he said.

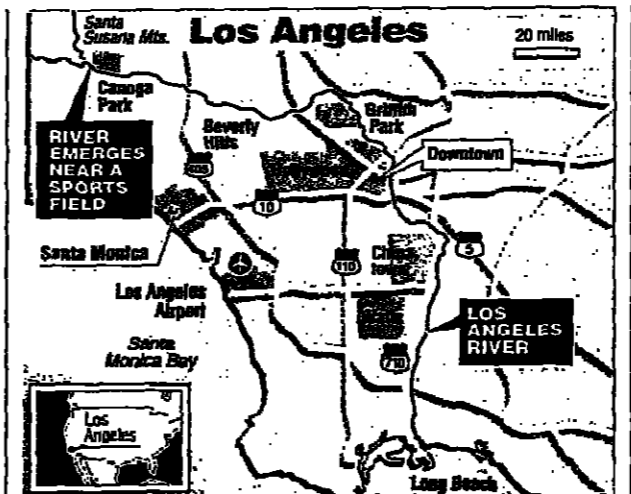
Creek freaks and anglers plead for LA's forgotten river

Christopher Reed in Los Angeles

VERY few of the millions who live in the smoggy sprawl of Los Angeles are aware that a river runs through it. Even those who have glimpsed its concrete-encased waters while idling in a traffic jam may wonder whether to believe what the signposts say.

The Los Angeles River begins far away in a cool spring in the San Gabriel mountains and emerges near a high school sports field in the prosperous white suburb of Canoga Park. From there, vertical concrete walls hide the flow, which in summer dwindles to a brown trickle on which float tin cans and plastic cups.

After heavy rain the river becomes a raging torrent, as happened last week when a driver operating a machine in the river was rescued by helicopter as flood waters deluged his cab. The authorities now



plan to bolster the river's banks with even more concrete, to minimise the danger of flooding.

For the first time, the engineers are meeting stiff resistance in a city where environmental protection has never had pride of place. A tenacious band of "creek freaks" called the Friends of the Los Angeles River want to see parts of it returned to nature.

They say there are already two short stretches of an almost natural river — Sepulveda Basin and Griffith Park — which could be extended into a landscaped flood plain. This would not only accommodate excess water, but could encourage wildlife. People might one day cycle beside the river, past such forgotten wonders as willow trees.

But the lobbyists are up against one of the most implacable enemies of the United States environmental movement: the US Army Corps of Engineers. The Corps's civilian construction division, which has been responsible for the de-

struction of many wild rivers in the name of flood control, began pouring cement on the Los Angeles River bed in the 1930s.

It may now be the world's most cemented river. Its 51-mile run from the high school playing field to the sea at Long Beach is mostly invisible behind concrete banks, fenced off and pad-

locked behind "No Trespassing" notices. No dry part of the riverbed is used to train bus drivers.

The river flows east through the suburban sprawl of the San Fernando valley, and skirts downtown LA, before running south by the Golden Gate freeway to the Pacific. Its entire length offers only

one footbridge, hardly any bankside footpath, and not a single bench. Treated sewage keeps the river flowing all year round, while pollution from gutters, water and industrial waste makes it foolish to fish below the headwaters.

The last run of steelhead trout, a sea-going fish like salmon that can reach 3ft, was in 1940. But California Trout, an anglers' organisation, hopes to help steelheads in the river's upper waters reach the Pacific once again via other rivers.

A recent discovery that the LA river trout is a unique species has reinforced the campaign.

The engineers' corps plans to raise flood barriers by several feet in a massive project priced between \$300 million and \$500 million (£200-£330 million). The plan is based on the theoretical possibility of floods occurring every 100, 134, or 150 years.

The battle has reached a critical point. The lobbyists must either sue the corps's backers, LA county and its

department of public works, over an inadequate environmental report, or accept the stringent terms of the levee project.

Meanwhile some Angelenos urge the traditional approach to urban planning: pave the whole river over for traffic. Just what LA needs — another freeway.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE
 MAKE ST. LONDON EB ASA
 (Charity Ref. No. 231223)

Dear Anonymous Friends,

You did not wish your gifts to be spoiled by human words of thanks. Their value gleams in the untold relief you silently provide.

We have honoured your trust, and always will.

Sister Superior.

The decisions flow, the copy, the photos, the video, but for many the flow is accompanied by that dangerous state, the suspension of involvement and emotion.

Jon Snow after Dunblane

G2 page 8

Stay as long as it takes

Bosnia needs commitment

ANOTHER WEEKEND of pitiful happenings in Bosnia continues to show up the hollowness of the peace. Haris Cvrk, a 14-year-old boy, is killed and his mother seriously injured after stepping on a mine in the Sarajevo suburb of Nedjarici. In another suburb — Grbavica — the main covered market is torched by Serb arsonists before being handed over to the Muslim-Croat Federation. And in a third suburb — Hadzici — where the transfer has already taken place, those few Bosnian Serbs brave enough to stay behind are being terrorised by young Muslim thugs.

What is the reaction to this of the "international community" — if it deserves the term? Reports that the Pentagon may review its long-standing opposition to a wholesale ban on land-mines will be too late for Haris Cvrk, even if it leads to an effective UN ban (and assuming that Britain too stops equivocating on the subject). It will also be too late for all those killed by mines already laid — or who are going to be killed by them — in Angola... and Cambodia... and Bosnia too, with its estimated three million mines already in place. It will still be a small gain, helped ironically by the casualties inflicted on US soldiers in Bosnia where three more Nato soldiers were wounded over the weekend. But the problem will not go away when the Americans leave at the end of the year.

Nor will any of Bosnia's other problems. This running tragedy has been subtly downgraded in Western perception: the renewed ethnic cleansing generates colourful tales of drunken Serbs or marauding Muslims, but no political storm. When the UN peacekeepers were on the spot, it was open season for harsh criticism of their alleged softness and lack of clear instructions. Somehow the sight of Nato soldiers standing idly by, while innocent members of all communities are victimised, does not arouse the same outrage. And Nato's grotesque determination to suit a presidential timetable and get the hell out of Bosnia by the end of the year, consigning the Bosnians to further instalments of real hell, is simply taken for granted.

This context of timetable withdrawal is crucial: Nato is making no attempt to arrest the ethnic cleansing which accompanies the separation, according to the Dayton agreement, of Bosnia into two "entities". To do so would imply a commitment — which does not exist — to stay on until the stated aims of Dayton, including the return to a multi-ethnic society, are achieved. The hard fact is that the political realities of Bosnia have been based from the start upon ethnic and territorial division — as our correspondent's report today on secret Croat-Serb understandings reached at the start of the war illustrates. Division has been the sub-text of every international plan including the current one.

What can be done? The arrival tomorrow of the paralysed girl Humija Mujic in London, adopted by a British sergeant-major, is a reminder that individual efforts can help. But there are another five hundred children in need of similar treatment while international evacuation is being phased out. In April a conference in Brussels will try to raise \$5.1 billion of urgent rescue aid — only one-third of what Bosnia really needs. That will be the time for governments to lay out hard cash instead of platitudes. In the meantime the international Contact Group on Bosnia starts a new round today in Geneva. What is needed is not cosmetic patching up, but a firm resolve to protect those Bosnians seeking to resist ethnic cleansing, and a commitment by Nato and the UN to stay as long as it takes.

Opening up Whitehall

Why not put it all on the web?

OF ALL the initiatives the Conservatives have made towards open government one stands out: the decision to publish the minutes of meetings between the Chancellor and the Governor of the Bank of England. It stands out because it whets the appetite for more. If the Government can publish sensitive high-level policy documents like this without ill-effect, what else could be released without bringing the pillars of Whitehall down?

First, the least controversial: information. The Government is creditably releasing official information through the Internet. Many departments including the Treasury, the Central Statistical Office and the Central Office of Information, have their own sites offering access to the rapidly increasing number of Internet users including schools, libraries and individuals. The Treasury has been quick off the mark. The budget is published soon after it is released and so are the minutes of the Chancellor's monthly meeting with the Governor. The COI publishes some departmental press releases a day after publication (why not immediately?) but the CSO — custodian of most of the interesting statistics — only offers samples of its wares free to the general public. This is because it is obliged to recover any extra costs by charging commercial users for access to its huge archives. This is a nonsense. It is taxpayers who pay for Whitehall and for all the information it collects. It is ours. There may have been some excuse for extra charges incurred by publication in book form. But that no longer applies. Most of the information — whether press releases about education or the inflation figures for the last 100 years — is collected in electronic form on word processors and spreadsheets. It costs hardly anything extra to make them available on Internet web sites where the public can access them from their home computers for the price of a local telephone call (on which the Government will also receive VAT).

And what about Hansard? If digital democracy is to have any meaning then the daily utterings of our MPs should be instantly available. Instead of privatising Hansard as the Government is — absurdly — trying to do, it should popularise it. As taxpayers we pay enough for the upkeep of Parliament. Why should its ultimate output — the sentences in Hansard — be sold to the highest bidder?

If the policy-making surrounding monetary policy can be published so painlessly why not other documents used for policy-making in education, social policy and economics? The top mandarins will doubtless resist. But as the former head of prisons Derek Lewis has pointed out, two-thirds of civil servants are now employed at arms length from Whitehall in Next Steps agencies. This is the natural place for an experiment in open government. And real freedom of information.



Letters to the Editor

Sense and sensitivity

BETTER anti-psychotic drugs may be denied to sufferers (Schizophrenia drugs rationed, March 14) not only on cost grounds but also by psychiatric prejudice. My daughter was refused clozapine for three years by two consultants in succession. When she was given it, she began to return towards sanity in two weeks. The first consultant declared that clozapine was not suitable for her. The second disagreed with testing "new and potentially dangerous drugs on cohorts of individuals". Clozapine had then been in general use for four years. It produced dangerous effects in under 1 per cent of its users. Both consultants refused to allow a second opinion, and each was supported by a different GP. The Patient's Charter gives the decision on second opinions to the GP. This rule needs to be rethought.

R E Keen
20 Fonthill Road,
Hove BN3 6HD.

IT'S interesting to hear that Rebecca Rees at the AA apparently sniggers at people who turn maps upside down to read (Sidelines, March 14). I have a bachelor's degree in geography and a master's in town planning, and have drawn and used maps and plans professionally for over a quarter of a century. I will still, though, often turn a map upside down to orient myself — particularly when faced with a poorly-made one, of which the AA produces its share. Harvey Van Sickle,
78 Upper Sherborne Road,
Basingstoke,
Hampshire RG21 5RP.

WHAT a surprise, shoppers aren't keen on second-hand, recycled toilet paper (Consumers abandon 'green' buys, March 6). Would the stuff perhaps be more popular if we were trusted to know about its production? Especially the mystery of just how all those separate sheets are reattached together so neatly into new rolls. Vivian Levett,
7 Lings Coppice,
London SE21 8SY.

Please include a full postal address, even on e-mailed letters, and a telephone number. We may edit letters: shorter ones are more likely to appear. We regret we cannot acknowledge those not used.

The rocky road from Dunblane

HOW inappropriate that the Queen should open the Royal Armouries Museum just two days after the gun massacre at Dunblane. What hope is there for a peaceful, non-violent society when the example set by the establishment is public endorsement of lethal weaponry? Nigel Simpkins,
50 Whitelaw Road,
Manchester M21 9HR.

ALL the Queen managed to do was to read out, stammering and incompetently, a few trite phrases, totally lacking in feeling or spontaneity. After over 40 years in the job, I think she might have done rather better. The best that could be said about it was that it made a fine advertisement for republicanism. (Dr) R F Carter,
26 Stanbridge Road,
London SW15 1DX.

THE tragedy in Dunblane which he calls for, stunts surveillance in schools, more controls on guns, more security everywhere. These responses are predictable enough but they also betray a loss of perspective. Nothing like this has ever happened in Britain before. There is nothing to suggest that it will happen again. So why should we allow this extraordinary incident to determine the degree of security, surveillance and controls we are prepared to accept in our society? Mick Hume,
Editor, Victoria Marsden,
London WC1N 3XK.

REJECT the picture drawn by Andrew O'Hagan (Scotland's damaged heart, March 15) of "a culture of violence too strong and widespread to be denied or disconnected from our everyday lives". Thomas Hamilton's horrific act of violence preoccupies us precisely because of the exceptional nature of it. To attempt to draw lessons from this and apply them to wider society is not only irrational, but dangerous. Sally Gray,
60 Greenwood Road,
London E8 1AB.

TONY Garwood's offensive letter (March 16) telling us that he was "sickened" by your call for tighter gun control is right in a way: it's no good tinkering with this problem. Firearms should be banned altogether. Then the next time one of us goes off his

head, he won't be able to kill our children with the dreadful ease, speed and efficiency that only a gun can give. D M Matheson,
Daresbury House,
Daresbury WA4 4AJ.

SYMPATHISE with Una Freely's view on child abuse (Letters, March 15). But I wonder if we are not on the edge of a moral panic that will lead to social fragmentation? My wife was admitted to a psychiatric hospital because she was hallucinating, hearing voices and threatening to kill a number of people (myself included). She alleged many things about many people — including myself. I was subject to a short, sharp investigation for child abuse — and cleared. I seriously considered abandoning my daughter. My wife remains unwell — and it is not easy living with the knowledge that any time she wishes to get at me, she has only to repeat her allegations and social services will come running.

Before this I enjoyed a fairly open easy-going relationship with my daughter. Now every action — from washing her hair to giving a hug — must be analysed just in case it

could be open to misinterpretation. Name and address supplied.

I AM amazed that the father of Thomas Hamilton could say (Revenge of the mistle, March 15): "I can't live with this. I can't take it. I brought a monster into the world". What he did was to bring a child into the world, and desert him when aged only 18 months. He then allowed him to be brought up believing that his mother was his older sister, by "parents" who were in truth his grandparents. Graham Redshaw,
5 Post Office Lane,
Slitting Mill, Rugeley,
Staffs WS15 2UP.

HAMILTON did not live in our "mist" until yesterday, when he shot dead 16 small children... (Slaughter of the infants, March 14). Implying that Hamilton was from the Dunblane community is a gross insult to our town. He was from Striling seven miles away. Do not link fifth like Hamilton with the town that suffered his monstrous depravity. Andrew McIntyre,
House of Commons Place,
Dunblane FF15 9HB.

An explosion in the laboratory

IT IS a pity that the glossy PR presentation of Science, Engineering and Technology Week (March 15 to 24) by the Government is not matched by a real commitment to supporting our SET base. The reality belies the hype. By the financial year 1997-98, government spending on Research and Development will be £1bn less than it was in 1986. In the Department of Trade and Industry alone, R&D programmes have been slashed by 80 per cent in four years. This does not bode well for the Office of Science and Technology, given its peremptory relocation to within the DTI.

The results of this lack of commitment are clear. Figures published by the OECD and IMF in 1995 show that the percentage of GPD spent on research and development in the UK is a mere 2.19 per cent, lower than the US (2.72 per cent) and Japan (2.93 per cent). It is little wonder that the UK has fallen to 18th place in the world prosperity league. Adam Ingram MP,
Shadow Minister for Science and Technology,
House of Commons,
London SW1A 0AA.

Gold finger

THE technique for fingerprinting of gold was pioneered jointly by Drs John Watling and Hugh Herbert in Western Australia and is not therefore a British or University of Durham development (Dons sting gold thieves, March 13). It has been used in the successful prosecution of gold thieves in over 20 international court cases during the last three years. The technique is used for fingerprinting gold bullion, jewellery, artefacts and nuggets and we already have a database of well over 1,500 samples.

There is also a collaborative project with Cambridge and Liverpool Universities, the Royal Ulster Museum and the National Museum of Ireland in sourcing Bronze Age artefacts. We are also working with a number of international police forces in sourcing not only stolen gold but diamonds, ancient statues and carvings and certain March 13. It has been used in the successful prosecution of gold thieves in over 20 international court cases during the last three years. The technique is used for fingerprinting gold bullion, jewellery, artefacts and nuggets and we already have a database of well over 1,500 samples.

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Sold out on the High Street

WALK along the high street of any village or town or city and you will see one of the reasons why the Government is going to lose the next election: empty shops. The last five years have seen a massacre. Speak to any of the surviving shop-keepers and you will probably find yourself talking to a disillusioned former supporter of the Conservative Party.

Usually the last straw that breaks the shop-keeper's back is the National Rate. This is the poll tax with a vengeance and is imposed whether the shop is making a profit or a loss or indeed

whether it is making any sales at all. On a square footage basis, small shops pay much more than big stores and a 24-hour-a-week craft shop will be charged on the same basis as a 24-hour-a-day international fast food outlet. Non-domestic rates have been fixed at between 10 and 20 times the level of ordinary domestic rates. At the present rate there will be hardly any small shops left by the turn of the century. Is this what we want? Eric Lewis,
2/3 St Johns Hill,
Wareham,
Dorset BH20 4NA.

A Country Diary

THE LAKE DISTRICT: People living in the north of our area, say Keswick or Penrith, or approaching from that direction see a completely different picture of winter Lakeland from Kendal or Windermere. For the northerners the fells will often seem plastered with snow whereas, on the same day, motorists approaching from the south might see no sign of winter and be puzzled by weather reports of snow-bound passes on their car radios. This marked preponderance of snow cover on north and east slopes was graphically underlined on a recent visit to the Howgills, just outside the Lakes, on a still, sunny morning. On the walk from Sedburgh to The Calf (2,218ft), the highest summit revealed little or no snow whereas, looking back from Calders, the modest, sprawling hump of Arant Haw, its shadowed north face carpeted in white, almost took on the splendour of an Alpine peak. Indeed, it was cold winter from the north but sunny spring from the

south — crisp snow for crannons on north slopes and the first new grass sprouting, with the yellowing daffodils, on sunlit, south slopes. A young man seated by the OS column on The Calf was plotting on his map an adventurous return route to Westdale, many miles away. The only other encounter all day was with a profusely perspiring man, stripped to the waist and brown as a berry, running through the snow as hard as he could. He turned round at Calders, without a pause, bounding back down the slopes with great skill. Perhaps a master, I thought, from Sedburgh School timing a course for the boys for, at one time, the pupils from this tough school had to run up and down Windermere, our first summit, before breakfast. On our way down we could easily pick out the familiar summits of Wharfedale, Ingleborough and Pen-y-gent and, much closer to hand, the massive bulk of Beugh Fell, draped in long fingers of snow and looking twice its real height. A HARRY GRIFFIN

Mining a rich seam of our history

Endpiece

Roy Hattersley

THERE are 203 bodes pictured on the poster — Davey lamps, pit-head winding gear, crossed picks and shovels, links of chain too strong to break and hands clasped too firmly in fraternal greeting ever to be disunited. Each one represents a pit which was closed by the Tories. The originals — brilliant in their hard enamel colours — were meant to be memento mori. Then they were sold on behalf of the Justice for Mineworkers Campaign that helped, and helps until this day, pitmen who were victimised after the year-long strike collapsed in 1984. But, taken altogether and set out in disciplined rows, they are the story of a lost civilisation.

Do not tell me that only elderly romantics find much that is civilised in digging coal. Few of us — who were neither

born nor bred in the industry or have the choice of another trade — would choose to earn our living underground. But once upon a time, the colliery was the life of the community which grew up around it — the football team, the brass band, the Saturday night dance, the library, the evening class in local history and international economics. Before the health service, the colliery companies provided medical insurance of a sort — as everyone who has read a novel by A J Cronin will recall. Very often, the miners' lodges and the non-conformist congregations could not be distinguished from each other.

After the Silkstone Colliery disaster of 1838 — in which 26 boys and girls (the youngest aged seven) were drowned in the flooded pit — parliament prohibited women and children from working underground. The pious miners of Barmley passed a resolution which was clearly inspired by Methodism not Marxism. It was concerned not with the demands of social justice but the requirements of respectability. It asserted: "The employment

of girls is highly injurious to their morals... and is a scandalous practice." In the old days, miners were and did everything within their locality. All human life was in the pit villages and colliery towns. So Brian Witts' "full-colour print, actual size 100cm x 7cm, produced on high-quality card and suitable for framing" is more than one ex-miner's attempt to make an enterprising bob or two and, at the same time, "show how people were misled about the future of the mining industry". It is a record of the nation's history.

For some of us, the story is personal. On January 1, 1947, I cycled with my mother and father to Corton Wood (closed October 1983) just for the pleasure of seeing a notice nailed to the gate. It read: "This colliery is managed on behalf of the people by the National Coal Board." I played my last serious game of cricket there. And, more than 25 years after that final duck, it was at Corton Wood that the long fight against Margaret Thatcher's closure programme effectively began. My grandfather worked

at Shirebrook (closed May, 1993) and when I was employed by the WEA, I gave my first lecture at Armthorpe (closed October 1992). As I recall, Kevin Keegan was born just down the road.

I know for certain that Jackie Milburn and the Charlton brothers were born in Ashington (closed January, 1986). Another score of the now half-forgotten pits are landmarks in the cultural and political development of this country. Bestwood Workshops (closed October, 1994) went hand in hand with Eastwood Colliery. That is the D H Lawrence pit in which Mrs Elroyd was widowed and Walter Morel once worked. Newstead (closed March, 1987) is a couple of miles away from the abbey of the same name. Byron did some of his best work there — the abbey, not the pit. Bentinck (closed March 1988) took its name from its original owner, Lord George Bentinck — who at least claimed to be more interested in racing than in politics — shared the leadership of the Tory party with Benjamin Disraeli. He bitterly

complained that he had given up the certainty of winning the Derby for nothing more than the hope of becoming prime minister. They took prime ministers more seriously in Seaham (closed March 1986). Ramsay MacDonald was member of parliament for Seaham Harbour until Manny Shinwell drove him from the constituency in 1935. Two hundred and three pits. Each one of them part of British history.

Other pits have been closed in other ways. In 1886, Oaks Colliery in Arley suffered its second catastrophe in two decades. In 1887, only 73 lives were lost. Nineteen years later, when the underground explosion blew the winding gear from the top of the mine-shaft, "there were many men and boys working in the pit, to the number of 340; of these 20 were brought out alive, but of which number 14 subsequently died, leaving 234 as the number sacrificed." The same edition of the Barnsley Independent reported the consequences of a second blast: "Out of 196 men who, after the

first explosion, descended to assist in the recovery of the bodies, 27 lives were lost."

Thirty years earlier, at Silkstone in the same county, the apocalypse came not with fire but water. "On that eventful day, the Lord sent forth His Thunder, Lightning, Hail, Rain, carrying devastation before them." At least that is how it is described on the monument at the top of Kendry Hill. It goes on to urge the reader to heed an implicit warning. We may all be "suddenly summoned to appear before our Maker" — like "George Birkinshaw, aged 10 years, and Joseph Birkinshaw, aged seven years, his brother."

In the 19th century, pits were closed by the will of Providence. In the 20th, they were destroyed by ignorance and malice. Their death implores the passing tribute of a sigh. Brian Witts has produced a tangible expression of regret.

The poster, closed by the Tories, can be obtained for £15 from Miners' Action, PO Box 91, Cannock WS14 4VT. Part of the profit goes to the Justice for Miners Campaign.

Nicosia Diary

John Hooper

CAPTAIN Collinge lowered his voice as he eased open the gate. "This, he said, "is a very sensitive area."

Ahead of us stretched a school playground bounded on the far side by a low wall. Beyond it was a narrow street with an abandoned yellow Morris Minor — sans tyres, sans windows, sans everything.

All you need is a diplomatic passport, a press card or military identification for a never-to-be-forgotten trip along the Trail of Human Folly. It is best visited on a dull winter's day like this one when wind and rain bend the palm trees, and the dim coloured masonry looks at its most sinister.

Further on is Tea Chest Wall. Because neither side is allowed to strengthen its defences, almost nothing gets repaired on the line and, every so often, a wall collapses. When this one fell down a year ago, the Turks built it up again with tea chests.

Fast Tractor Corner and Grassy Bunker there is the National Guard post in central Nicosia where they used to charge tourists to throw stones at the Turks. Further along, there is the Booby-trapped Shop in which, for many years, a grenade hung menacingly by a string.

ACTUALLY, THEY'RE A BIT LONGER THAN THE OTHERS. The debate goes wider than the IGC. There are two additional issues. These are the pursuit of a European Union single currency, and secondly, the proposal that Britain's European future should be subject to a referendum.

True cost of BSkyB at the ringside

Commentary Mark Lawson

MIKE TYSON received \$3 million a minute for his brief contest against Frank Bruno yesterday. This is astonishing, but not novel, for the phenomenon of fighters' pay days is well known.

These are strange and significant days in British television. The arrival of pay-per-view packages marks this as a watershed weekend.

The rhetorical war between executives is also intense. "Few believed that the BBC could survive multi-channel, deregulated, commercial broadcasting. But we are," the Controller of BBC2, Michael Jackson, told the Royal Television Society last Wednesday night.

Let's begin with Mr Elstein's research. As well as the more than half of the sample who question the value of the licence fee, 70 per cent of viewers believe that the licence fee should be reduced. These findings may be less revealing than BSkyB believes. The licence fee is — or is widely regarded as — a tax. Polls on taxation traditionally show large majorities in favour of the levy being reduced.

On the subject of viewers' polls, one will doubtless be published in the next two weeks revealing that "violence in television and films" is held in part or fully responsible for atrocities like that at Dunblane.

John Biffen argues that despite all the IGC excitements of EMU and referendums, both John Major and Tony Blair could emerge as tepid Europeans

THE BRITISH have paid for their past neglect of post-war European development. At least things are different now. Westminster is alert to, perhaps obsessed by, the inter-governmental conference which has the task of considering the fulfilment of the Maastricht treaty.

The debate goes wider than the IGC. There are two additional issues. These are the pursuit of a European Union single currency, and secondly, the proposal that Britain's European future should be subject to a referendum.

tion towards the BBC. Mr Elstein's detailed research has merely revealed a televisual equivalent of an ancient economic truth. People would like bread and milk to be cheaper.

And yet the exercise is disingenuous. For he and BSkyB are not offering free loaves and pints. Not at all. How many of those who paid between £1.50 and £2 a minute for the Bruno-Tyson fight would tell a pollster that it represented "very good value" when they were not prepared to say that about a licence fee which works out at around £0.0002 per minute.

And what was the attitude of sports fans this weekend to the numerous cable companies who were unable, for technical and contractual reasons, to offer the Las Vegas contest even to those prepared to pay-per-view for it?

First of all, it should be said that, while television drama frequently portrays very good after-mathis of violence — see BBC1's recent *The Sculptress* or *Silent Witness* — the medium has, at least in recent years, been highly cautious

about gun-play and shoot-outs. These remain the province of Hollywood cinema. And, about movie violence, two points should be made.

The traditional objection to screen violence is that it may encourage imitation. No generally accepted data exists on this perceived link, so we should stick with an observable truth. Not all — or even most — of those who view violent films feel moved to copy them.

accept that questions may legitimately be asked about the psychological health of the directors of the bloody entertainments named above. The difficulty is that those viewers in whom violent images trigger violence may equally find their provocation not in a Tarantino movie but in a JD Salinger novel or a news report.

Malcolm Rifkind has made it clear that Britain will seek some modest restraints for the European Court of Justice. Hitherto, this has been regarded as a somewhat esoteric point, but the court, as guardian of the European treaties, has — perhaps — a highly political function.

There is compelling evidence that the IGC could have a formidable workload and be much more than a sack-making exercise. Germany is likely to force the pace, but the economic malaise will generally restrain European ambitions.

Superficially, all members of the Commission. It is already too large and will be expanded by the enlargement of the Union. Reduction in the size of the Commission will be a matter of tangled debate, not least because size and effectiveness can be related.

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In a word, are they weird or wicked?



Ros Coward

BEHIND last week's extreme and terrible events in Dunblane lies something more mundane: the almost insurmountable obstacles which exist between allegations of sexual abuse and their successful prosecution.

Many people now think professionals see sexual intercourse where it does not exist. After the Orkneys, Cleveland and Nottingham, this is hardly surprising. In Cleveland over 100 children, most wrongly "diagnosed", were taken from their families.

Police are concerned not about over-intervention but about the difficulties in catching and prosecuting adults who use children sexually.

Yet the crime remains serious, so at least two forces last year set up specialist paedophile units. They focus in part on organised paedophilia — child pornography and the Far East child sex trade.

Sex crimes against children have a deceptively low catch-up rate. Childline took 7,207 calls about sexual abuse in 1995, and only 24 were taken any further. Still fewer led to successful prosecutions. The

Department of Health registered 7,300 children at risk of sexual abuse in 1995. But Home Office figures show only 274 cautions or prosecutions with children during the same period.

Parton and Watton claim that beyond all the dropped and failed charges are many more incidents. They have analysed letters submitted to the current National Commission on Child Abuse. The majority of these — now adult — writers had not reported severe sex crimes. They were inhibited by fear, guilt, and confusion about what was happening to them.

Adults too have difficulties. We are all squeamish about suggesting that sad and pathetic individuals might be dangerous criminals. These reactions aren't just confined to the more obvious misfits — the "Mr Creepies", as the children of Dunblane called Thomas Hamilton. They also colour the response to paedophilia among the so-called respectable middle classes — in families or at boarding schools. The response there is often to take the adult's perspective, to pity the inadequate and to demand his sexual satisfaction in this way.

But to act on paedophilic impulses is almost always damaging, even if not always murderous. To engage in such acts, adults usually persuade themselves that children are consenting or even enjoying it, thereby dragging children into their distorted reality.

This is why I prefer the way set up by specialist paedophile units. They focus in part on organised paedophilia — child pornography and the Far East child sex trade. But these units also recognise that, more locally, paedophiles corrupt and seduce. Often they are extremely plausible and devious people whose detection requires a high degree of organisation and coordination between agencies.

Steady as she goes

John Biffen argues that despite all the IGC excitements of EMU and referendums, both John Major and Tony Blair could emerge as tepid Europeans

THE BRITISH have paid for their past neglect of post-war European development. At least things are different now. Westminster is alert to, perhaps obsessed by, the inter-governmental conference which has the task of considering the fulfilment of the Maastricht treaty.

The debate goes wider than the IGC. There are two additional issues. These are the pursuit of a European Union single currency, and secondly, the proposal that Britain's European future should be subject to a referendum.

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HELP MORE BABY BIRDS TO SURVIVE THIS SPRING WITH THE RSPB

Birds are never busier than in Spring. And for good reason: it is now they ensure the survival of the species. As a member of the RSPB, you can enjoy the special pleasure of watching birds raise a family — in the RSPB's nature reserves countryside and also at home — by putting up the sturdy nest box we'll send you, free, when you join.

FREE NEST BOX You'll receive this sturdy wooden nest box when you join the RSPB.

YES - I want to join the RSPB this Spring. I enclose a cheque/PO (payable to RSPB) for: £22 A year's single membership £27 A year's membership for two adults at one address £32 A year's family membership for two adults and all children under 16 at one address.



Helen Chadwick

At the edge of mystery and taboo

HELEN Chadwick, who has died suddenly aged 43, was one of the most innovative and individual artists in Britain today.

Her work was alarming, funny and deeply serious, and her reputation, which spread far outside the art world, rested on works which frequently caught the public imagination (while being lampooned by the popular press). It was Helen Chadwick who filled the Serpentine Gallery with her chocolate fountain, which, with its 750 kilos of molten Cadbury's chocolate, gurgled and glooped lugubriously. In the same year, 1994, with the help of her partner David Notarius, she cast bronze sculptures, which sprouted like phallic mushrooms, from piss-holes they made in the snow. And, in the mid-1980s, it was Helen Chadwick whose huge cube of fermenting vegetable matter, grass clippings and kitchen waste oozed black sludge over the carpet at the ICA.

Yet she also made an acclaimed film about Frida Kahlo in 1992, wrote poems, taught and lectured. As a teacher at the Chelsea College of Art & Design and at the Royal College of Art, her wry and direct approach brought zest, fun and a deep consideration of underlying issues to seminars and studio critiques. Unpretentious, pragmatic, a stickler for detail, she was also a delight to work with. Her curiosity, and her insight, was endless.

fused the natural with the artificial, the manufactured with the organic in these gorgeous photo-works: orchids were surrounded by pink Windolene, delphiniums floated in hairgel and lisebells soaked in oil and milk. Even the superficially repellent became beautiful: she played with our taboos, about the body and its place in the world. Her works were unerring gifts from the unconscious.

Born in Creydon, she went to Brighton Polytechnic in the mid-1970s, moving to Chelsea for a one-year MA in 1976. Her first individual show was in 1978 at London's now defunct Art Net. A succession of individual and group exhibitions followed.

She was always more at home in the personal—in the space of the body, in our own writhing interiors. Her works, sometimes literally, got under our skins, and showed us how uncomfortable, and how marvelous and strange, it is to be in the world. Once, she painted out the yellow hearts of all the daisies growing on a lawn; she painted them black.

She rewrote the canon of beauty, challenged the aesthetic legacy and brought a fascination with impurity to her revolutionary exploration of spectacle

In the months before her death she was working at Kings College Hospital, in a unit devoted to Assisted Conception. There she made drawings of embryos for an exhibition which will open at the Barbican in May. These works, with their manipulated images are a meditation on both the beginning and the end of life, and in their quiet nature, signal a kind of return.

Adrian Searle

Marina Warner writes When I first met Helen Chadwick, she was sculpting penises and using images of her own body cells. In *Bad Blooms* and *Wreaths To Pleasure*, shown in Britain in 1994, she con-

her smooth, light, bendy epine body and her signature Louise Brooks haircut. She also dressed with a kind of sharp wit, in clothing that she found in places like Carnaby Street but which no one else would ever have made to look the way she did: there was a heraldic gold pin she always wore, showing a hand clasp and its place in the world. Her uncompromising fearlessness, and for her commitment to reverse-sex identification, to our "inherent bisexuality".

Her drive to perfection inspired craftsmanship of an unsurpassed meticulousness. She had a lovely, distinctive, fluent hand writing, made her own Christmas cards (often very wild, an Arcimboldo cluster of penises one year), she was a brilliant reader, coming upon the fascinating essay, the out-of-the-way catalogue, the short story with an inspiring and relevant theme, and unfailingly generous with her insights and her discoveries. Anyone who was taught by her was truly fortunate—and she taught hard, to get the expensive procedures of her art (casting, printing, electrics).

She was curious about everything, and she brought to the subjects of her curiosity a mind so alert, so free from cant and preconception, so witty, so empathetic that she constantly extended the range of the visible world, and introduced new sensations to her audience, new disturbances, unthought-of pleasures, revulsion, inquisitiveness, satisfaction. Yet nothing she used to create these shivers was peculiar or abnormal in itself; her materials were common stuffs, base materials: flower petals, vegetable peels, washing-up liquid, chocolate.

Helen's mother is Greek, and she once laughed at my speculation that perhaps her deep curiosity about beauty and all its metamorphoses have some connection with her name and its ancient Greek associations. In her art, which is marked by exceptional audacity of thought and exquisite process and technique, she rewrote the canon of beauty, challenged the aesthetic legacy and brought a tabooed fascination with impurity to her revolutionary exploration of spectacle, in all its forms. She worked hard, and she worked early, 1983-85 sculpture series *Ego Geometria* Sum revisited Euclidian solids

and classical nudity, and three years later, *Of Mutability* explored the rococo style, its flourishes and excess of gestures, and its obsession with transience. She wrote to me, "I seem to be projecting imagined psyches on to seen physical phenomena." She was also exploring the origins of life and individuality using frozen embryos that had passed their date. Through these strange radiant haled pictures, she was also addressing the most fundamental ethical questions, about subjects and authority, about knowledge and its purposes; making such dilemmas visible.

She never said a dull or lazy word; she was the least mealy-mouthed person I know, and she never lied to please. She was acerbic and

open-eyed and brave and brilliant; she could and did re-enchant the world—even to the point of making an exquisite erotic print after a recent visit of the roach exterminator to her house. She had a gift for deep feelings, to a degree that is rather rare: when she fell in love, with her partner David Notarius, it was an unexpected and overwhelming passion, from which she seemed almost awed. Together they made *Piss Flowers*, surely one of the most idiosyncratic, personal, comic and at the same time delicate celebrations of mating bodies ever conceived.

She was kind, too: generous with her time, and attentive. The last time I saw her, she insisted on walking with me



An adventurous mind... Artist Helen Chadwick with her 1994 work *Piss Flowers*

PHOTOGRAPH: KIPPA MATTHEWS

this winter she wanted us to look at medical specimens of biological oddities with new eyes, to see the beautiful in what is thought obscene, or monstrous. She wrote to me, "I seem to be projecting imagined psyches on to seen physical phenomena." She was also exploring the origins of life and individuality using frozen embryos that had passed their date. Through these strange radiant haled pictures, she was also addressing the most fundamental ethical questions, about subjects and authority, about knowledge and its purposes; making such dilemmas visible.

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She was kind, too: generous with her time, and attentive. The last time I saw her, she insisted on walking with me

in the cold to the tube, because I didn't know the area round her new studio.

Her work was given a deserved accolade in the recent show in Paris, *Feminin-Masculin*, where *Piss Flowers* was positioned at the very start, just after Courbet's erotic masterpiece *L'Origine Du Monde*. It's commonplace to say that her loss is terrible: it's true of anyone, especially when death cuts a life short; language strains to meet such circumstances, to give just tribute. But in her case, nothing can take the place of her passion, her wit, her fineness of hand, her exploring, restless imagination.

Helen Chadwick, artist, born May 18, 1953; died March 15, 1996

Roswell Gilpatric

Key man in Cuban crisis

NEW YORK lawyer Roswell Gilpatric, who has died aged 89, may well have saved the world from a nuclear war during the 1962 Cuban missile crisis. He was also widely believed to have been Jackie Kennedy's lover between the assassination of her husband and her marriage to Aristotle Onassis.

Gilpatric was briefly under-secretary of the Air Force during the Truman administration, but showed little further interest in politics and returned to his law practice. But soon after John Kennedy's 1960 election, his wife was awakened in the small hours

to be told her husband was wanted urgently by Robert McNamara, the incoming Defence Secretary. Persuaded that it was a hoax, the lawyer saw in McNamara's car at Baltimore airport in a snowstorm, haggling about the terms on which he would become Deputy Secretary.

The debate of that period was whether America should put all its military eggs into the nuclear basket or whether it should also build up forces for conventional war. Against Democratic opinion, Gilpatric favoured the Eisenhower-Dulles doctrine of relying solely on nuclear weapons.

In September 1962, US intel-

ligence discovered 42 Soviet missiles in Cuba, Moscow said they were purely defensive. But on October 14 aerial surveillance revealed an offensive launch pad under construction. The Central Intelligence Agency calculated that the missiles would be useable within 10 days.

Cabinet hawk like National Security Adviser McGeorge Bundy wanted to destroy the base with an air strike, but Pentagon analysts pointed out that to cripple all Russia's other military resources on the island would require some of the doctrine of relying solely on nuclear weapons.

An alternative proposal—

to impose a naval blockade on Cuba — was put forward by McNamara, but the decision hung in the balance at the crucial meeting of the Executive Committee set up to handle the crisis. As Kennedy hesitated, the normally taciturn Gilpatric, convinced that nuclear war would be America's only likely military option, broke in. "Essentially, Mr President," he said, "this is a choice between limited action and unlimited action. Most of us think it better to start with limited action." Robert Kennedy wrote later that the President accepted Gilpatric's point because he respected his calm judgment.



Gilpatric... diplomat

The reports about Gilpatric's relationship with Mrs Kennedy emerged when an unnamed Wall Street lawyer tried to sell letters she had written to him over five years beginning when her husband was still alive. It was never discovered how the lawyer had acquired them, but the

letters were subpoenaed by Gilpatric's third wife, then filing for separation.

The evidence was ambiguous, in spite of the sensation they caused. Much was made of the fact that Mrs Kennedy just after her marriage to Onassis. It read: "Dearest Ros, I would have told you before I left — but then everything happened so much more quickly than I'd planned. I saw somewhere what you had said and I was very touched — dear Ros — I hope you know all you were and are and will ever be to me — With my love, Jackie." Gilpatric denied that the relationship had been anything but a friendship.

He had three children from five marriages, four of which ended in divorce.

Harold Jackson
Roswell Leavitt Gilpatric, lawyer and diplomat, born November 4, 1908; died March 15, 1996

Birthdays

Ron Atkinson, football manager, 57; Patrick Barlow, actor, writer and director, 49; Rene Clement, film director, 88; James Conlon, conductor, 46; Lois Dyer, pioneer of physiotherapy, 71; Pat Eddery, jockey, 34; Roger Evans, MP, under-secretary of state for social security, 49; John Fraser, actor, 66; Peter Graves, actor, 70; Alex Higgins, snooker player, 47; Prof Walter Ledermann, mathematician, 85; Kenny Lynch, singer and actor, 57; Prof Linda Partridge, evolutionary biologist, 46; Wilson Pickett, singer, 55; Conway Pina, saxophonist, 33; Alan Sapper, trades unionist, 66; Barry Shaw, chief constable, Cleveland, 55; Nicholas Snowman, chief executive, South Bank Centre, 52; Ingermar Stenmark, ski champion, 40; John Updike, novelist, 64.

Jackdaw



Playboys
"I LIKE WOMEN and I like women to like me. I like them to like the way I talk to them, to like the way I dress. And I like them to be well-dressed, attractive, but also to be sincere... I have enough money to pursue the sort of lifestyle I like. I wouldn't like to think that I had to put in an eight-hour day in order to eat caviar in the evening. I haven't had a serious relationship for 10 years. I don't want anyone to think they're 'my woman', so I might invite two or three of them to a house party or club. I like to be friends with them, to have a good time talking

and a good time in bed but nothing more. I do want to find a nice wife, settle down and have children but I haven't fallen in love yet. I like to give presents to women because I like to give them pleasure, but I can't do it often because I'm afraid of drawing them over the line between strong affection and love."

Misha Agroskin, 43-year-old Russian bachelor and entrepreneur.

"I GUESS I get more attention than most men. Most of the girls know me by a name. I'm not like most millionaires who go on about how hard they work. I'm not ashamed of my money or what I do with it. Dad wants me to take over the company one day, so he's letting me have a little bit of fun first. During the season I ski and snowboard in Telluride and Aspen, and then I like to go white-water rafting with my buddies in Montana during the summer. Sometimes I hire the girls from my favourite strip club in Vegas to come along on long-haul flights. On a recent trip we had four girls

dancing for us at \$5,000 feet. It was real mile-high rocket-ride of a party if you know what I mean. I love women, all women. I have an absolutely stunning girlfriend who is incredible in bed. I've never had better sex. The problem is that there are so many stunning babes around this town. I have tried to remain faithful to my girlfriend, but it's really hard. Yesterday, I was in my convertible on Mulholland Drive and this total urtasm of a blonde called over to me at the lights and asked me for my car-phone number. I shouted it across and she called me two minutes later. We stayed at the Bel Air Hotel and had cocktails on the roof at midnight. If that happened to you, wouldn't you go for it too?"

Eal M Newport, 27-year-old man-about-L.A. gives an insight into the lifestyles of the rich and not-so-famous. The two were interviewed by Marie Claire for its feature on 'The Playboys'. Other Marie Claire highlights this month include 'My Twins Have Different Fathers', 'Sent To Prison To Lose Weight' and 'My Wife Needs A Husband'.

Pick me up

● AT THE ART GALLERY: DON'T say "My two-year-old could do that", or use the phrases "painterly", "post modern", "visionary", "nice" or punctuate anything you say with air quotes.

● IN THE RESTAURANT: DON'T order anything you can't pronounce, or the most expensive thing on the menu. DO order anything you can eat tidily, noiselessly, and that won't repeat on you. DO order the most expensive thing on the menu if she wants it.

● DO let her know there are no strings attached, without being crass and obvious about it. Let her know the pleasure of her company has been enough, without being smarmy about it.

● IN THE PUB: DON'T get drunk in a light/pork scratches/off with the barmaid.

● DO get your round in. DO keep your eyes off the big screen match.

● IN THE NIGHT CLUB

DON'T dance if you can't or

DON'T sweat, snap your fingers or shout one of those young people phrases like "mental".

DON'T lose your dignity in any other way.

DO respect your intuition — if you feel too old, you probably are.

DO know a quiet little unassuming place, just around the corner from here.

For playboys who need a little help, those first date dos and don'ts in full, courtesy of *Men's Health* magazine.

Soap flakes

Dear Mr. Berman, You complained of too much soap in your room so I had them removed. Then you complained to Mr Kessender that all your soap was missing so I personally returned them. The 24 Camays which had been taken and the 3 Camays you are supposed to receive daily (sic). I don't know anything about the 4 Cashmere Bouquets. Obviously your maid, Kathy, did not know I had returned your

Wen's Health

Jim Strong
GREYER
REPAIRS
SCALP
RESTORES
HAIR
GROWTH
REPLENISHES
HAIR
CELLS
WITH
VITAMINS
AND
MINERALS
FOR
A
LUSH
HAIR
DO
WASH
ONCE
A
DAY
FOR
BEST
RESULTS
15
MINUTES
A
DAY
FOR
BEST
RESULTS

How to... Men's Health

As of today I possess:
On shelf under medicine cabinet — 18 Camay in 4 stacks of 4 and 1 stack of 2.
On Kleenex dispenser — 11 Camay in 2 stacks of 4 and 1 stack of 3.
On bedroom dresser — 1 stack of 3 Cashmere Bouquet, 1 stack of 4 hotel-size Ivory, and 3 Camay in 3 stacks of 4.
Inside medicine cabinet — 14 Camay in 3 stacks of 4 and 1 stack of 2.
In shower soap dish — 6 Camay, very moist.
On northeast corner of tub — 1 Cashmere Bouquet, slightly used.
On northwest corner of tub — 6 Camays in 2 stacks of 3.
Please ask Kathy when she services my room to make sure the stacks are neatly piled and dusted. Also, please advise her that stacks of more than 4 have a tendency to tip. May I suggest that my bedroom window sill is not in use and will make an excellent spot for future soap deliveries. One more item, I have purchased another bar of bath-sized Dial which I am keeping in the hotel vault in order to avoid further

Oscar Abrams

A bird that flew in Islington

THE KESKIDEE Centre had been a mission hall, just off Islington's Caledonian Road. Step into it from the late sixties and through the seventies and you would meet musicians, poets, painters, performers, dramatists and writers. Linton Kwesi Johnson, Nina Simone, James Berry, Sunshine Ekan Ogunde, Rufus Collins, were a few among many. Jamaica's prime minister Michael Manley visited, and it sometimes seemed that for London's black youth the Keskidee had become club, university, and home. It was London's first Afro-Caribbean cultural centre. And at its heart was Oscar Abrams, who has died aged 58, the Keskidee's quietly spoken director.

Putting aside an architectural career, he used his savings to buy the hall, named it the Keskidee, after the delicate but enduring Caribbean bird and became master of ceremonies, producer, fundraiser, planner, and teacher. Education at the Keskidee was an all-round education, instillation on local estates resulted in a self-taught camera crew filming the rats — and showing their film to initially disbelieving housing officers. A local National Front meeting was aborted when a Keskidee crew turned the lights off one by one, and drummed on every door leading into the blacked-out hall. Oscar redeveloped the building into the friendliest of spaces, built its drama output and created a family, where older African artists worked alongside younger Caribbean artists.

All cultural projects have their ups and downs, but when black or innovative projects get into difficulties they usually seem to be closed. Yet when the Arts Council's withdrew its modest support the Centre survived and the property was only sold in 1992.

Oscar is also remembered for his contribution to Liverpool's cultural life, and he worked tirelessly as the Holloway Youth Workshop's director. His lifelong socialism was continued through the Islington Black Socialists, the Labour Party and the local voluntary sector. Oscar was a good celebrant, the creativity of the peoples of the black diaspora. His energy was endless until he was struck down by cancer; his passion remained cricket — and his was a good innings, but it was more than just a touch too short.

Oscar is survived by his wife Susanne and children Amah-Rose and Kisi, and greatly missed by his family overseas.

Bill Harpe

Oscar Abrams, community organiser, born March 10, 1937; died February 15, 1996

In Memoriam

MEMORIAL SERVICE. Vera, Always bright and cheerful. An example to all. Eternally yours, Sydney.

Memorial Service

READER: Jeremy J. A momentary service to celebrate the life of Jeremy J. Bradie will be held in the chapel of Oriel College Oxford at 2pm on Sunday, 25th April, followed by a reception at the Oriel Union.

810 please your announcement telephone 0171 713 6227 Fax 0171 713 4129

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Excuse the pan

THIS MONTH sees the second and final part of the power by the Reverend P. D... The Editor would like to point out that owing to printers' errors in last month's episode, the "allegories of Jesus" was rendered as the "allegories of Jesus" and the word "pun" was presented as "pan".

A correction from *Beacon*, the parish magazine for Brecon and District. Thanks to Anne Evans.

Jackdaw wants your jewels. E-mail jackdaw@guardian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

Dan Glaister

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Labour

by SU

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Investing in social capital can help to counter spate of evil



Will Hutton

THE first shock is the event, awesome in its evil, horror and irrationality. The second shock is that British society has become so deformed we can produce the individuals who commit such crimes. Dumbly, we sense, will be followed by more.

The reflexive instinct is to legislate for anything that might help. Tighter gun and knife control; more security guards outside schools; more intervention by the police. All may help at the margins — yet even their most ardent advocates know that the next Thomas Hamilton could evade such controls if he were determined enough.

Real protection demands a profound change in the character of British society and culture. Individuals — especially the growing number of marginalised men living alone — need to be integrated better into the networks of mutual aid and reciprocity on which a well-functioning society rests. Then at least there may be some chance of making the details of the farming economy. Economic historians are picking up on the theme, emphasising trust as an important animating force of industrialisation. Trust is the cement that creates industrial clusters, innovative supply chains and long-term supportive finance; but trust cannot be created without a strong civic society and clusters of social networks.

— and of embedding him in social relations that can act as a constraint. The spate of awful crimes highlights what we know in our guts: that Britain's stock of social capital is diminishing and unless it is replenished there is no long-run relief in sight.

Here, unexpectedly, some new thinking in economics offers insights. A new wave of theorists, concerned that market mechanisms alone cannot signal the economic rewards resulting from collaboration and co-operation, is exploring the role of social capital in advancing economic development — and how it is fostered. The capacity of an economic grouping to forge trust and recognise a mutuality of interests is emerging as no less important in fostering growth as is investing in physical and intellectual capital.

A group whose members trust each other can achieve more economically than a non-trusting group; the classic example is how farmers can economise on farm tools if they can trust in the capacity to borrow from other farmers. Equally, they can have leaner labour forces if, for example, one can be trusted to bale hay for another when idle, in the expectation that the favour will be returned. These trust relations can be formalised into co-operatives and even local agricultural banking — so that the stronger the social networks, the more prosperous the farming economy.

Professor Robert Putnam, a political economist at Princeton, and Professor Douglass North, a Nobel prizewinning economist at Washington University in St Louis — have been prominent in arguing that social capital along with an economy's institutional structure are fundamental to its performance.

But economists working in a similar vein range from Harvard's Professor Michael Porter, who famously advocates that social clusters and networks of firms create self-generating growth circles, to Reading University's Professor Mark Casson. The latter argues that even entrepreneurship is based on trust, because the production of high-quality, innovative goods demands an integrity of

relationship between the workforce, suppliers and financiers. Integrity of production requires the integrity of trust relationships.

Social capital has, however, been on the decline in the US, and Prof. Putnam is concerned about its impact on the economic and social development of American capitalism.

The vast US legal industry is founded on the breakdown of trust as individuals turn to lawyers to police contracts; the financial services industry is overblown because individuals need financial instruments that protect against risk as trust relations diminish; the explosive growth of crime and the prison population is intimately related to the orgy of corporate downsizing, causing falling real wages and marginalising unskilled men.

The new, untrusting American corporations generate productivity not through creativity and organic growth but by destroying what seems to be costly social layering.

This may have short-run benefits, but in the long run it imperils the good society

which sustains any successful economy. Nor is the US alone. In Britain there is the same erosion of trust relations which leads to industrial and financial short-termism, and is corroding trust relations in the wider society — reflected in these moments of horrific social breakdown. Hamilton, left alone to his own macabre devices in his Stirling house, became a moral outcast unable to empathise with the plight of his victims or their families. The decline of social capital infects economy and society alike.

YET from whence social capital? Prof. Putnam's study of Italy, Making Democracy Work (Princeton University Press), shows how when the Italians regionalised their political system in 1970 it was these regions with the greatest civic traditions and rich in social capital, with dense networks of clubs, associations and civic action groups (including trade unions, notably Emilia-Romagna and Umbria, that exploited the opportunities best. In the poor south, the typical unit is the

individualistic, inward-looking nuclear family which stays aloof and apart from civic life — and those regions were less successful.

They found it much harder to launch themselves on the same virtuous circle of autonomous government reinforcing the civic tradition and so enhancing social capital.

Nor was this just a political and social gain: in the north the benefits spilled over into the dynamic small-firms sector — itself profiting from the same trust relations and high social capital that allowed small firms both to co-operate in the development of new technologies and production processes as well as to compete. Successful regional governments put in place structures to support that collaboration — and those in turn became part of the local social network.

Some of this civic tradition and social capital has roots that go back to the Middle Ages — with the depressing implication that if a society has not got the historical underpinning for social capital it is condemned to be a loser. History matters. On the

other hand, Prof. Putnam notes that after 20 years there are the first signs that even in the Italian south a civic participative tradition is beginning, with knock-on effects on the economy and society. New institutions can make a difference, but it takes time.

In Britain, however, social capital and trust have been under assault from two directions. In the first place, the insistence that only individual bargains in markets can organise economy and society efficiently has helped generate a winner-take-all culture.

INDIVIDUALS are exhorted to capture as much gain as possible and structures have been created — from the NHS to the labour market — in which that exhortation is matched by a new pattern of legal and economic incentives. Mutuality of obligation is secondary to self-interest; strong public services are secondary to tax cuts.

The other impact on social capital has been the marked decline, which Prof. Putnam observes in the US, of civic and social life, and the weak-

ness of Britain's political and social institutions in offering any counterbalance. The Americans are joining and participating less, he reports, a trend that is matched in Britain.

But, rather than blame the so-called dependency culture, he focuses on new forms of recreation, which require less social interaction, as one of the causes. For example, he is not so concerned with the growth of violent films on TV so much as the rise of television-watching itself as displacing social and civic activity. And that activity in turn is less attractive because the new rootlessness of aggressive market economies makes it hard to have any long-run stake in the outcome of activity that is based in one permanently changing neighbourhood.

These arguments point to a more subtle response to Dumbly than looking for top-down legislative mechanisms of social control and coercion to solve the problem — while in the economy further promoting atomistic market relations. The task is rather to rebuild trust and social capital.



How Labour will act to end insecurity at work

Debate

Michael Meacher

THAT limping lion Michael Heseltine has been humiliated again, with the Whitehall-inspired leak of his plan to remove rights at work from 10 million households — a small businesses. Today sees a Parliamentary debate on his initiative, called for by Labour.

But behind the red faces and denunciations, the true story will be one of job insecurity, not one of the biggest problems facing our society.

The facts are startling. Nearly nine million people, one in three men and one in five women, have experienced at least one spell of unemployment since 1992. One in five households have no working adult. And surveys show that more than half the British workforce believe that their job is becoming less secure.

Job insecurity — written off only a few months ago as "an issue of the Board of Trade, Ian Lang — has a major effect on

economic performance. It slows consumer spending. It damps the housing market. And it threatens productivity. When Labour takes office, tackling insecurity will have to be a top priority. It is time that the party spelled out clearly how this will be done.

The labour market is changing fast. People will change jobs more frequently during their careers than they did in the past. The demarcation lines between skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled work will start to blur. The technological sophistication of manufacturing and service processes will increase. The need to equip our people to cope with these changes is evident. But can we create a labour force both flexible and secure?

This might sound like a contradiction. To the Tories, statutory protection at work destroys jobs. The way to create jobs is to cut through wage cuts and the progressive undermining of working conditions. Unless you are a director or senior manager, of course, in which case you need enormous pay rises and "executive" cars.

But Britain can never cut its wage costs to the level of the

Third World. Our only hope is to find competitive advantage through productivity and through quality. That requires motivation and commitment, which in turn requires that the work is achieved through fair. Employees require basic guarantees of fair treatment if they are to be stakeholders in the success of their organisations and their society. A clear framework of legal rights at work is therefore essential.

It is time to stop the endless see-saw of industrial relations in this country

That is why Labour will sign up to the Social Chapter. To begin with, it will consist of little more than implementing the Works Councils Directive, which only applies to multinationals and which has already been activated in the UK by many of them. But the Chapter does represent a commitment to rights of information and consultation, to ensuring that every employee is reasonably informed about their own "enterprise".

Labour will also create a

new right to recognition. Where a majority of employees in the relevant bargaining group wish to be represented in negotiations with their employer by a trade union, we will give them that right. We will also give individual employees the right to be represented in disciplinary and grievance hearings. Black-listing of union members will be outlawed. It is time to stop the endless see-saw of British industrial relations, with macho employers in the ascendant at one moment and aggressive unions at another. That can only be done through the social partnership approach that has brought success to countries as diverse as Germany and Australia.

We will also act to prevent the growing exploitation of part-time, temporary and contract workers. Such cases flood into my office, a low-paid employee at the Victoria and Albert museum, forced to sign away his employment rights

in return for a succession of three-month contracts; a skilled draughtsman required by his employment agency to accept in advance legal liability for the failure of his work; ASDA supermarkets offering new low-pay contracts to Sunday workers.

There is no good reason why part-time and temporary workers should not enjoy, pro rata, the same rights as full-time colleagues.

We will introduce a National Minimum Wage, to prevent the competitive undercutting of pay and conditions that disfigures and damages so many industries, from clothes manufacturing to contract cleaning.

Much is made of employer opposition to the NMW. But more and more employers in these sectors would welcome it, precisely to give them — and the quality of the products and services they offer — some protection from competition through cost-cutting. We can and will set the level of the NMW through negotiation, but the principle is firmly established.

There is much else that needs to be done. Legislation against discrimination at

work should be extended to cover older workers and people with disabilities. Reasonable limits on working hours need to be set, ending the "zero-hours" contracts of the European Union's Working Hours Directive. The Industrial Tribunal system, which enforces many of these rights, must be reformed to ensure speedy and efficient access to justice at work.

Tony Atkinson, who these measures are not compatible with flexibility in the workplace are wrong. Labour also seeks major improvements in training and further education to equip employees with the skills they need.

Insecurity at work does not lead to innovation and entrepreneurial behaviour. It leads to caution, rejection of responsibility and avoidance of risk.

That is not what we want for our people, and not what our country needs. Turning around Britain's long, slow, economic decline will not be easy. But tackling job insecurity is an essential first step.

Michael Meacher is Shadow Employment Secretary.

Tony Atkinson wrote last week's debate, is warden of Stifford College, Oxford.

Chancellor ready for one last cut

Commentary

David Walton

Last week, Ian Shepherson of HSBC Capital Markets called that interest rates would fall to 5 per cent. Today a contrary view is offered.

The economy is in the midst of an inventory adjustment. Over the next year, industry has been producing more than it can sell, leaving unsold goods on the shelves. Companies have begun to bring output back into line with demand, as evidenced by the 0.6 per cent drop in manufacturing output in the latest three months.

Although there are clear signs of a strengthening in consumer spending, manufacturing output is likely to remain depressed for several more months until the interest rate adjustment has run its full course. This should keep GDP growth below trend during the first half of 1996.

The weakness in manufacturing output is putting strong downward pressure on the rate of increase in factory gate prices. Core producer output price inflation has come down from a peak of 5 per cent last September to 3.7 per cent in February; prices increased at an annualised rate of only 1.4 per cent in the latest three months. Underlying retail price inflation has been more stable but it is only a matter of time before falling inflation in the manufacturing sector becomes more widespread.

When companies cut output, it is usually not long before they cut employment too. It was therefore no great surprise to see manufacturing employment fall sharply last month, reversing the entire gain recorded in the previous three months. By the same token, the 600 rise in unemployment recorded in February should have come as no

shock. Although the data can be taken from month to month, a few months of rising unemployment is now likely.

Such a development, coupled with a drop in headline retail price inflation to around 2½ per cent this week, should help to prevent an escalation in pay settlements. The risk is rather of stable wage inflation, declining producer price inflation, rising unemployment and stagnant manufacturing output, seems to provide strong support for the Chancellor's recent decision to cut base rates. Indeed, since these conditions will probably persist for several more months, the Chancellor may feel inclined to keep interest rates on a downwards path.

However, we are approaching the trough of the interest rate cycle. Once the stock adjustment is complete, the economy, led by consumer spending, seems set to pick up strongly, helped in part by recent cuts in base rates and taxes. Forward indicators of inflation are beginning to flash amber again. The most striking of these has been the doubling in broad money growth over the past year.

This does not pose any immediate threat to the Government's inflation target. The Bank of England is right to believe that the odds favour a decline in underlying retail price inflation to below the government's target ceiling of 2½ per cent over the next year.

However, the prospects of a sharp rise in inflation to 2½ per cent during the second half of 1997 and in 1998 are becoming less certain. This argues for caution from now on in the conduct of monetary policy. Politics aside, we could already have seen the last base rate cut. More probably, the Chancellor will cut rates by another 25 basis points between now and mid-year before they stabilise. The Chancellor risks an embarrassing policy U-turn ahead of the general election if he tries to go much further than this.

David Walton is director of UK economic research at Goldman Sachs.

Tricky Dicky summed up

Worm's eye

Dan Atkinson

EVEN those of us who hate going to the pictures should toddle along to watch Anthony Hopkins being President Nixon, if only to thank the great man (Sir A. that is) for his brilliant portrayal of a small farmer persecuted by the Brussels goon squad in the 1969 BBC television play *Heardard*.

Except the Nixon film to be light on economic theory, however — conventional wisdom has it that RN was a foreign-affairs genius (China, and, er... China), but a domestic-policy duffer. Yet at the very moment this wisdom is enshrined in an expensive cine production, it begins to fall apart.

Nixon's asserted economic "game plan" took a terrible slating for their inconsistency, but in retrospect can be seen as an admirable willingness to try anything as long as the beneficiary was the American worker.

Game Plan I (1969-71) was a stab at *laissez-faire*, followed by the Keynesian

Plan II (January-August 1971) and the emergency Plan III-phase one controls package of August 1971, which took the dollar off the gold standard. Phase two, from November 1971, was essentially corporatist.

The long decline of average American incomes began in 1974, the year Nixon took early retirement. Coincidence?

Two decades on, copping up to the killers in Peking seems less clever than once it did, whereas the game-plan era is washed in all the nostalgia due a golden age.

Perhaps the same ideas that guided his supposedly brilliant foreign policy were at work in his allegedly-useless economic agenda. If so, RN would not have bought the myth that "technological change"

makes inevitable the rule of the foreign-exchange markets and free trade. In *Rest and Repair* (Stigwick & Jackson, 1994), he rips into the "logical fallacy" of confusing means with intentions. It is, he says, the grand-daddy of myths.

He was discussing nuclear weapons, not automated dealing systems. But what goes for a Trident missile goes for a Trident screen. Technology, in other words, is neutral; electronic funds transfer no more "brought about" unrestricted movement of capital than the invention of the Sten gun caused the Malaya emergency.

Perhaps this lesson has to be relearned every generation or so, a depressing thought that's enough to drive you to the pictures.

Senator's Dole-beater

Briefing

Richard Thomas

LYING on Bill Clinton's desk, next to the but-ton for the A-bomb, is a new weapon: the A-corp. Designed purely for domestic political use, the A-corp — standing for "Business Allied with America's Working Families" — could be the centrepiece of Mr Clinton's campaign to keep Bob Dole out of the White House.

It is the work of Senator Jeff Bingaman, who has just published the final version of his ideas. By our standards he is a dangerous radical.

Here, for example, are a few of the hurdles to A-corpdom: 3 per cent of payroll must be spent on pensions, and 2 per cent on training; half the cost of workers' health insurance must be met; an employee equity-sharing plan established; management share options phased out; a maximum ratio of 50:1 between the pay of the boss and the lowest worker maintained; and at least 90 per cent of new investment on goods for sale in America spent in the US.

In return, A-corps will pay tax at a rate of around 11 per cent, compared with 18 per cent for the others.

As proof of his determination to keep the A-corp legislation already being drafted — the senator has changed some details after consultation with business about an earlier draft.

On a cosmetic level, the A-corp has replaced the R-corp, or Responsible Corporation. The reason, as a Bingaman staffer explains, is purely political: "The R-corp sounded too much like we were setting good corporations against the bad. 'Alliance' is more politically palatable."

Being non-aligned sounds better than being irresponsible.

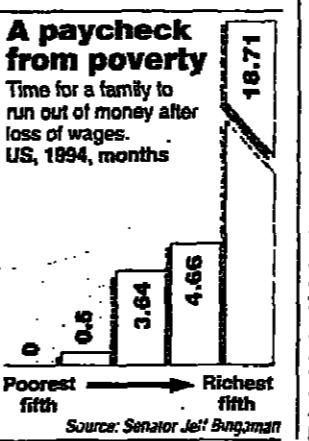
The investment qualifications have also been watered down: in the original version, a minimum level of capital spending that had to be in the US, regardless of the destination of the product. Now this rule only applies to goods bound for the US market.

Should the A-corp idea fail, Mr Bingaman has another card up his sleeve. The A-fund — "Financial Markets Allied to America's Working Families" — is a new name for an old idea, a transactions tax.

In this scheme, stocks and shares would be subject to a diminishing transfer tax. A share bought and sold within six months attracts a rate of 0.48 per cent, falling by 0.12 percentage points each half year, disappearing altogether for securities held for more than two years.

Again, this is a shift of position from the earlier draft, which proposed a flat-rate 0.6 per cent.

Unsurprisingly, Mr Bingaman's ideas have provoked howls of protest on Wall Street, and silent support from only a few corporations. But the senator still thinks the President — who privately looks kindly on many of the reforms — might turn up the A-corp and A-fund if the going gets rough in November.



Tourist rates — bank sells

Australia 1.91	France 7.45	Italy 2.350	Singapore 2.11
Austria 15.20	Germany 2.1875	Malta 0.5425	South Africa 5.82
Belgium 44.75	Greece 364.00	Netherlands 2.4550	Spain 183.00
Canada 2.0275	Hong Kong 11.60	New Zealand 2.18	Sweden 10.22
Cyprus 0.70	Ireland 51.90	Norway 9.55	Switzerland 1750
Denmark 8.45	Ireland 0.9550	Portugal 226.00	Turkey 99.768
Finland 6.98	Israel 4.71	Saudi Arabia 5.68	USA 1.9900

Source: NatWest Bank, including major airports and hotels. Rate as at 17:00 on 16/03/96

Indicators

- TODAY — JP: Trade balance (Feb); UK: GDP (Q4); UK: PSBR (Feb).
- TOMORROW — US: Housing starts (Feb); US: Building permits (Feb); FR: Current account (Dec); GER: WPI (Feb).
- WEDNESDAY — US: Trade; goods & services (Jan); US: Retail sales (Feb); JP: Leading indicator (Jan); GBR: M3 (Feb); UK: Building society net new commitments (Feb); UK: M4 (prov. Feb).
- UK: Retail sales (Feb); UK: Minutes of February's monthly monetary meeting released.
- THURSDAY — US: Weekly jobless claims (16e Mar 1996); US: Business inventories (Jan); JP: Household spending (Jan); UK: RPI (Feb); FR: Household spending (Feb); FR: BOF Council meeting.
- FRIDAY — GER: Industrial trends survey (Mar); UK: GDP: IPI (Feb); UK: Trade balance (Jan); Source: DNB International.

Golf

Masterstroke lifts Monty for Masters

Michael Britten in Dubai

COLIN Montgomerie played the percentages to perfection at the Emirates Club yesterday and won the Desert Classic with exactly the score he had predicted.

tal ball was the stroke with which he mastered his determined Spanish rival. It was a majestic driver shot from the 18th fairway which carried some 340 yards over the lake guarding the green and deposited his ball some 15 feet from the flag.

lost all five play-offs in which he has appeared, including those for the US Open and US PGA championships. But this victory was just reward for the expert manner in which he stalked the pacemaker Jimenez and then mastered him in the tense finale.

Fryatt stays cool in Indonesia

BRITAIN'S Edward Fryatt gained his first international success yesterday when a level-par 71 in his final round secured him his 10th European victory, but more impressive than the accuracy of his cry-

said. "I just tried to hold on and play as best as I can in the hot sun." Fryatt had shaved one shot from the course record with a 65 on Friday but it did not stand for long. Yesterday the Canadian Jim Rutledge carded a 64 to claim a bonus of \$1,850 and share second place with another American, Daniel Chopra, who finished with a round of 68.

round, which, allied to his good play through the green, has earned him \$171,000 (£15,000) so far this season and 1,414 in prize money. It can mean life. But on Saturday there were two glaring instances of fallibility with putts of a length that a good player expects, rather than simply hopes, to hole.

Faldo gripes at his putting and the grain of Bay Hill

David Davies in Orlando

WITH no fewer than 30 players in the final four shots of the lead after three rounds of the Bay Hill Invitational here in Florida, all manner of men had a chance to win.

credentials, but after his Irish connection was hard to find, unless, in desperation, Faldo is allowed. Faldo, having struck the ball superbly for much of the third round, finished with a 69 that should certainly have been two strokes, probably three, better. Had it been the latter he would have joined Burns and Guy Bovee in the lead.

exactly. He was left with a 7ft putt, straight uphill, and he missed it. Faldo, a despairing glancer at Fanny Sunesson, his caddy, and marched off to the long 16th, a real birdie opportunity. Eventually, after two well-struck woods, he was faced with a slippery chip from the back of the green that had to be weighted so that it would reach the edge of a minor precipice and then fall down to the hole under its own steam.



Winning shot... Montgomerie talks his fairway drive over water and on to the 18th green

lenging, rather than commanding, position. Another of the leaders, who may not be Irish but who loves their courses, was Tom Watson. If ever a man has been betrayed by his putter over the past decade or so it is Watson, who has won only once since 1984.

The American has given the game a new term, "the flinch", because when the pressure is on and he has a holeable putt he tends to rear up and away from it, literally flinching from the moment of contact. He began yesterday with the lead - and 172nd in the putting statistics.

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Southwell (All weather Flat)

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 2.00 Gleaner, 2.30 Gleaner Four, 3.00 De Antezing).

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Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 2.30 TYSON APPOINTMENT HANDICAP (10) M IN CLASS, 3.00 KEMMISTON (10) M IN CLASS).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 3.00 CHAMBERLAIN CLAIMING STAKES (7) M IN CLASS, 3.05-3.10 ABBOTT'S HANDICAP (10) M IN CLASS).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 2.10-2.15 SHORDBOAT HANDICAP (10) M IN CLASS, 2.20-2.25 SHORDBOAT HANDICAP (10) M IN CLASS).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 2.40 CROCUS HANDICAP (10) M IN CLASS, 2.45-2.50 CROCUS HANDICAP (10) M IN CLASS).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 3.10 MARCH HONEYCREEPER (10) M IN CLASS, 3.15-3.20 MARCH HONEYCREEPER (10) M IN CLASS).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 3.30 BUSHFIELD HANDBICAP STAKES (10) M IN CLASS, 3.35-3.40 BUSHFIELD HANDBICAP STAKES (10) M IN CLASS).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 4.00 FANNERS WEEKLY HANDICAP (10) M IN CLASS, 4.05-4.10 FANNERS WEEKLY HANDICAP (10) M IN CLASS).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 4.30 SANDHORN SELLING STAKES (10) M IN CLASS, 4.35-4.40 SANDHORN SELLING STAKES (10) M IN CLASS).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 5.00 ST ANDREW'S HANDICAP (10) M IN CLASS, 5.05-5.10 ST ANDREW'S HANDICAP (10) M IN CLASS).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 3.40 DUFFOON HANDBICAP (10) M IN CLASS, 3.45-3.50 DUFFOON HANDBICAP (10) M IN CLASS).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 4.10 SPYRUS HANDICAP CHASE (10) M IN CLASS, 4.15-4.20 SPYRUS HANDICAP CHASE (10) M IN CLASS).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 4.40 SEASONS END STANDBY OPEN HI FLAT (10) M IN CLASS, 4.45-4.50 SEASONS END STANDBY OPEN HI FLAT (10) M IN CLASS).

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Newcastle card with form guide

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 2.50 MIB Thyme, 3.50 Seven Towers, 4.50 Pegasus).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 4.20 HEDDERLEY ELECTRIC CHARITY CHALLENGE SERIES FINAL (10) M IN CLASS, 4.25-4.30 HEDDERLEY ELECTRIC CHARITY CHALLENGE SERIES FINAL (10) M IN CLASS).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 2.50 WIN WITH TONYRHOE GENERAL (10) M IN CLASS, 2.55-2.60 WIN WITH TONYRHOE GENERAL (10) M IN CLASS).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 3.20 TIP-TOP TIMEFORM BATTERY HANDICAP (10) M IN CLASS, 3.25-3.30 TIP-TOP TIMEFORM BATTERY HANDICAP (10) M IN CLASS).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 3.50 WEST-ORPHEUSVILLE HANDICAP (10) M IN CLASS, 3.55-4.00 WEST-ORPHEUSVILLE HANDICAP (10) M IN CLASS).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 4.10 SPYRUS HANDICAP CHASE (10) M IN CLASS, 4.15-4.20 SPYRUS HANDICAP CHASE (10) M IN CLASS).

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Racing

Rough Quest taken out of Grand National

Chris Hawkins

ROUGH QUEST, runner-up in the Toté Gold Cup, will not run in the Martell Grand National. He was ante-post favourite at 7-1 and appeared "thrown in" at the weights with only 9st 13lb.

take a tug as he usually does in his races and I'm not just saying I think there's more to it than that," he said. Whatever the reason, the Cheltenham Festival is definitely not Richard's meeting. He has had 39 runners there over the last 10 years, but only one winner.

Rough Quest appears so well that rather than the National he could run in the Martell Cup, the three-mile conditions event at Aintree on the opening day of the meeting.

In the Lincoln, Sharp Prospect, trained by that big hands-on specialist Rex Akehurst, is 8-1 favourite. Sharp Prospect won the Spring Mile at Doncaster's opening fixture last year, but was off the course after finishing unplaced in the Newbury Spring Cup.

There has been support for last year's runner-up Moving Arrow, in 12-1 from 18's with Hill's. Moving Arrow failed by a short-head to get up last year, racing on the stands side with the winner, varying tests taken on the grey have not yet come back.

The draw has always been the single most important factor in the Lincoln and has varied over the years, but last season high numbers had no chance and being ante-post at this stage is a mug's game. A Southwell 1st afternoon, Tempering (4.00), the formidable course specialist, is napped in the Farmers Weekly Handicap. Despite two wins this season he is still rated way below his mark of two years ago.

Lingfield runners and riders

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 2.10 Balfourhadden, 2.40 Major Nova, 2.40 Poole Brown).

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 2.10 SHORDBOAT HANDICAP (10) M IN CLASS, 2.15-2.20 SHORDBOAT HANDICAP (10) M IN CLASS).

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Meredith rests

DYLAN MEREDITH will be out of action for a mandatory seven days after suffering concussion when brought down from Patec in the opening event at Hereford on Saturday. The fall meant he missed a winning ride on Dr Rocket in the following race.

RACELINE 0891 168+ COMMENTARY RESULTS NEWCASTLE 101 201 202 102 202 103 203 120 220 SOUTHWELL 103 203 120 220 REAL RESULTS SERVICE 1638 0891 168+ 333

Large vertical advertisement for Sri Lanka on the right edge of the page.

CRICKET WORLD CUP FINAL

Mike Selvey in Lahore sees cricket's great entertainers deservedly win the final with another dazzling display

Sri Lanka light up the world

SRI LANKAN cricket came of age last night under the spangle of the floodlights when they beat Australia by seven wickets to win the World Cup. 15 years after they became a Test-playing nation. They are the first side to win the trophy by chasing.

It was the stuff of dreams for Sri Lanka and their captain Arjuna Ranatunga, who as a 17-year-old had batted in his country's first Test, leaped back and delicately ran Glenn McGrath to the third-man boundary to reach 47 and launch celebrations in Colombo that will last for weeks.

At the other end Aravinda de Silva, master batsman, raised his arms in triumph before disappearing into a mob of team-mates and supporters. In the previous over he had scored his 12th century to take him to 103 and a place in the World Cup history books alongside Clive Lloyd and Viv Richards as the only batsmen to score a century in a final. Together the pair had compiled a four-wicket partnership of 97 - De Silva finishing with 107 - and overhauled with ease Australia's modest 241 for seven.

Earlier De Silva and Asanka Gurusinha had put things back on course with a third-wicket partnership that yielded 125 after Australia had dismissed the pinch-hitters Jayasuriya and Kaluwitharana by the sixth over.

The impact of this victory will be massive. For years Sri Lankan cricket has been treated shabbily by many, its talents going unrecognised. Nor had it enjoyed the smoothest of passages into the tournament. In Australia this winter accusations were made of ball-tampering and the off-spinner Muralitharan was no-balled for throwing by the umpire Darryl Hair. Muralitharan paid the Australians back with interest yesterday, throttling their middle order with a seven-over spell that cost only 15 runs.

Then there was the refusal of Australia and West Indies to travel to Sri Lanka for their group matches in the wake of a suicide bombing in the capital. However understandable that might have been, it ranked.

This was not a victory achieved against the odds. For Sri Lanka were no underdogs. It was founded on spin bowling that kept the Australia innings in check at a time when it might have pressed on to a more competitive level. In the top-class catching in the deep and on bowling of the highest calibre.

Australia, by contrast, never quite found their way after a start that had seen them 127 for one by the 27th over. Only Mark Taylor (71) and Ricky Ponting, who made 45, looked in any measure of crack while they were at the crease, adding 101 for the second wicket after Mark



Victory waltz... Sri Lanka begin the celebrations which were destined to last all night as defeat starts to sink in for Australia. PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN PARKIN

Waugh had chipped a gentle catch to square leg. On this of all days the Australia batsmen chose not to dig in but get themselves out, with Taylor caught on the sweep, Ponting bowled making too much room to cut, Steve Waugh turning his bat too early and skying a catch to long-on from the leading edge, and Stuart Law slicing to backward point. No one sold himself dearly.

They were hampered by the combined spin of Muralitharan, Dharmasena, De Silva, whose three wickets meant it was quite a day for him, and Jayasuriya. From the 21th over when Taylor hit the last of his eight boundaries - there was a midwicket six from him as well - until Bevan struck two fours in the penultimate over, the rope had been crossed only once, in the 43rd over, when Bevan pulled Dharmasena for six. When Australia wanted to crack on there was nothing left.

There is no doubt that the side batting second had an ad-

vantage, although Australia would have batted first anyway had Ranatunga not won the toss and, as is the Sri Lankan preference, decided to bat second. The toss, therefore, was academic, but Ranatunga may have been further influenced by the visit his side made on Saturday night to see the ground under lights. A similar visit by Australia might have changed their own thinking - in the event their bowlers were hampered increasingly by a heavy dew-fall as he was to finish, and not to have made it was an uncharacteristic oversight in usually meticulous planning. It meant that Shane Warne in particular was handicapped and his quota of overs cost 58.

Nothing can detract from the quality of the Sri Lanka batting, however. Just as the day's rain lived up to its name yesterday, Britain's Max Scandri won yesterday morning's stage and Chris Boardman took the afternoon's time-trial. But overall victory in the 750-mile, eight-day "Race to the Sun" went to France's world No. 1 Laurent Jalabert, who repeated his victory of last year.

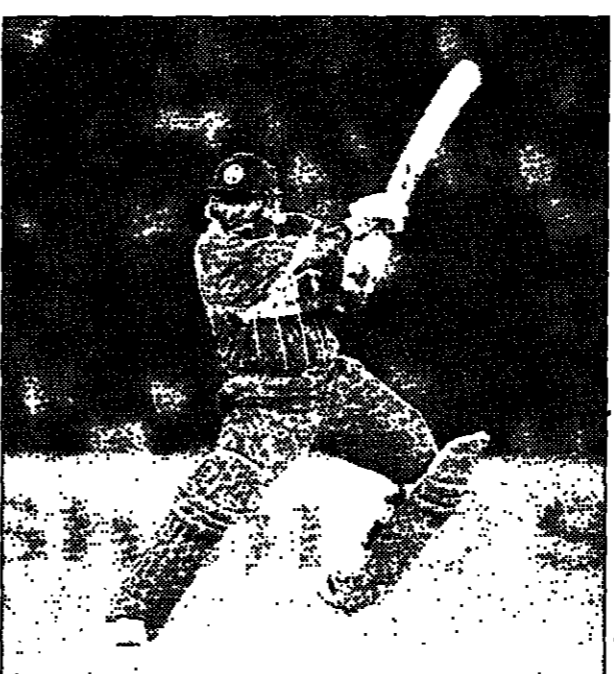
The promenade is a five-mile stretch of palm-lined highway curving between the hotels and the beach. Yesterday's Anglans were rather different from the joggers and skate-boarders in designer tracksuits and the elderly maiden ladies out walking their dogs who usually through its wide pavements.

Scandri's victory in the morning's 40-mile out-and-home road race was gained in the teeth of a spectacular high-speed pursuit from the bunch who, led by the sprinters, were breathing down the necks of Scandri and his two breakaway companions for the length of the promenade.

"I never looked behind. I just kept my head down and kept going," said the Derby-born, Tuscan-domiciled racer, who with his fellow breakaways whom he out-sprinted,

Thereafter it was exhibition stuff, led by De Silva, who on-drove his first ball for three with such majesty that runs for him looked an inevitability. He found support from Gurusinha, whose normally reserved play gave way to an assault on Warne that culminated in one of the strokes of the tournament, a pull nudged miles over long-on. With Sri Lanka always up with the required run-rate, it was a needlessly rash stroke that cost him his wicket as he heaved mightily at Reiffel and was bowled, having made 65 from 99 balls.

But any thoughts of breakthrough for Australia disappeared with the appearance of Ranatunga, who began as he was to finish, running a ball fine to the third-man boundary, and never looked back. His general innings, scored from 37 balls, took the pressure from De Silva, who was content to work the ball around before bursting into life once more with a series of withering wristy strokes.



Class cut... De Silva posts another boundary. MIKE HEWITT

Colombo in uproar as fans rejoice

David Hopps sees a city rejoice after so much heartache

EVEN in its most harrowing times, Sri Lanka has never lost the sound of laughter and, long after midnight, streets in Colombo that had been largely deserted for much of the day rang out in rowdy celebration of their coming of age.

Twenty-one years ago, in their first World Cup match, Sri Lanka were dismissed for 86 by West Indies and realised the gulf they must bridge to become a principal Test nation. In this tournament they had won four of 26 World Cup matches. Now their progression was complete.

They swarmed in their tens of thousands last night along Galle Face Green, the capital's favourite gathering point, to bare their car horns, toast Sri Lanka's World Cup victory in arak - the local coconut-based fire water - and dance and sing to the rhythm of the drums.

"What happened Shane Warne?" became the mantra - a reference to the man perceived as the prime instigator behind Australia's decision to forfeit their opening group match in Colombo. One of the most insistent songs was This Land Belongs to Us, and such lyrics cannot be sung in Sri Lanka without an awareness of the underlying weariness brought about by years of terrorist warfare's victory against Kenya in Kandy.

As the cameras focused last night on a defeated Australian team, the jackal sounded for a final time. It was the response of a city's greatest eyes and, as always, relishing every minute of it.

Lankan flag gathered to watch their triumph unfold on two big screens, blowing whistles, applauding every single and dancing with delight at every boundary.

No occasion in Sri Lanka is too momentous for hilarity. They laughed at the Gurusinha name, cherishing his batting style for its craziness; they laughed for the umpteenth time at the Ericsson Mobile Phone advert, in which an elderly businessman mistakenly imagines that a beautiful young woman is asking him out to dinner; and they laughed longest at the revelation, as De Silva finished face down in the dust, that Gurusinha had been involved in 24 runs out in his international career.

Sri Lankan cricket is changing but there is still a happy-go-lucky element to their game that is marvellous to witness. Most of all that mood more than De Silva; no more popular player could have led Sri Lanka to victory.

Yesterday morning, in the bookshop of the Taj Samudra hotel, Keshri Muralitharan talked of Sri Lankan folklore and how nadiya - the jackal - is regarded as the lowest of all animals. "The crowd is the dustbin of Sri Lanka, and only the jackal will eat it," he said. "That's the reason it is despised."

Australia's forfeit of their group match had caused their High Commissioner to be taunted with the cry of nadiya - "Hu, Hu, Hu" - when he presented the prizes after Sri Lanka's victory against Kenya in Kandy.

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Scoreboard

Table with columns for teams (AUSTRALIA, SRI LANKA), players, runs, wickets, and other statistics. Includes sub-sections for AUSTRALIA and SRI LANKA with player names and scores.

Hockey

Cannock drawing close to first title

A WEEKEND of remarkable high scoring saw Cannock and Reading emerge as the only clubs with a realistic chance of winning the National League Reading, though, are now the only club unable of a cup and league double.



Cycling

English claim the promenade

William Fotheringham in Nice. NICE's Promenade des Anglais, a stage-finish straight in the Paris-Nice since the race's inception in 1933, lived up to its name yesterday. Britain's Max Scandri won yesterday morning's stage and Chris Boardman took the afternoon's time-trial.

At an average speed of over 35mph Boardman's victory was the fastest time-trial recorded in a major professional stage race. He outstripped his own record set in the prologue of the 1994 Tour de France and won by 24 seconds, a huge margin for such a short distance. It was enough to lift him into third place overall, only five seconds behind the 1993 world champion Lance Armstrong of the United States.

Boxing

No comebacks as Bugner admits to 30 hated years

Paul Weaver. ANOTHER former British heavyweight champion was stopped over the weekend but this time there will be no returning. In Berlin, city of ruins and building sites, Joe Bugner, 46, looked like any other desolate edifice after Scott Welch had ended both his second comeback and far-fetched ambitions to fight Frank Bruno again, or even George Foreman in boxing's Antiques Roadshow.

Despite considerable ability and undoubted bravery Bugner has always fought with hollow conviction, and finally came clean after Saturday's fight: he has hated every minute of a professional career spanning 30 years.

Basketball

Robinson declines as Giants fall

Robert Pryce. MARK ROBINSON will be among the All-Stars at Leicester on Wednesday night, but he spent Saturday there in the coach's dog house.

Robinson, the Manchester Giants' American forward and leading scorer, was taken out of Saturday's Budweiser League game at the Granby Halls and forced to spend a restless hour on the bench as the Leicester Riders overturned a one-point half-time deficit to win 109-89.

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FIVE NATIONS CHAMPIONSHIP

England 28, Ireland 15

Wales 16, France 15

Welsh open way for England's bulldozer

Rowell yet to deliver on vision

Robert Armstrong at Twickenham

LOVE him or loathe him, Jack Rowell has the happy knack, acquired over many hard competitive years at Bath, of putting silverware on the table. It should come as no surprise to those who grasp his true priorities that England, against the odds, have won the Triple Crown and the Five Nations Cup after threatening to finish as incompetent also-rans.

They are light years away from the vision of total rugby that Rowell espouses

summer tour of the southern hemisphere in the offing. Instead of putting their fragile status as Europe's top dogs to the test in, say, New Zealand — a country they have not toured for 11 long years — the players will disperse in May, unwearyly aware that they are light years away from the vision of total rugby that Rowell frequently espouses.

for an unfairly orchestrated campaign to force him out of his job. Increasingly it seems that England lack a truly international dimension to their play, a shortcoming which will largely negate their chances of winning the next World Cup. One suspects that Rowell's own lack of international experience until he was well past 50 has come home to roost, as it did to some degree with his predecessor Geoff Cooke, who on the whole was happy to persevere with a limited style of rugby during the 1991 World Cup.

When Rowell was in charge of Bath a favourite lobe was that a player was "good enough for England but not good enough for Wales". Yet that self-satisfied remark seems to be more pertinent now that Rowell is England manager and Bath are coached by Brian Ashton and Jon Hall. This season only Bath, under the astute captaincy of Phil de Glanville, have demonstrated the ability to develop the type of all-purpose game that wins respect among the major southern hemisphere teams.

Conventional wisdom suggests that Paul Grayson and Matt Dawson, who both had mixed fortunes against the Irish, are failing to coordinate slickly with the backs, the forwards and each other, and there may be some justice in the charge. However, since their international debut against the Samoans in December the Northampton pair have been forced to adapt to an ever-changing game plan that saw the back row reshuffled constantly and Richards suddenly recalled in mid-championship.



Swing high... Martin Johnson soars in the line-out with help from Graham Rowntree

Hobbling triumph of Will

Frank Keating sees the captain undergo joy, pain and a curtain-call at Twickenham

A H MUM was there at the end as she had been at the beginning. At the first of the historic sequence ended on Saturday in Twickenham's new state-of-the-art medical suite as the doctors huddled over his ankle — and mum was again alongside, having left her seat to hurry down and hold her son's hand.



Last exit... Carling departs the field on a stretcher

of a schoolboy comic's story outline. Staunch Dean Richards had held back the rest of the side precisely long enough for the approbation to be heartfelt but not jarringly so — just as, an hour and a half before, Mark Regan had stage-managed the entrance.

On Saturday Regan stopped the crocodile out of the tunnel once the captain had been assured of "no funny business", so Carling ran out alone to the first standing ovation. He acknowledged it with a sweet and sheepish half-wave.

Immediately after the game, unworldly content, they drank Laurent Perrier pink champagne from plastic mugs. The captain hobbled round the room to shake hands with every man. Then the coach Jack Rowell did the same. "Thanks, I'm proud of you," he said. Somebody mentioned that in the solitary defeat in Paris, with England lead-

France fall to fire and fierce ruck

Ian Maife in Cardiff

WALES said au revoir to Five Nations games at the Arms Park for three years on Saturday — the stadium is to be transformed into a futuristic arena for the 1999 World Cup — with the hope that, at last, the nation is building a team whose deeds will raise the new ground's retractable roof.

It was an afternoon of high emotion. Before the game Land Of My Fathers was sung with renewed passion, and some 90 minutes later Jon Humphreys was leading his men back out to acknowledge the roars of a crowd acclaiming this quite unexpected victory.

The only discordant note was when a distress flare was then fired from the terraces and landed near the centre of the pitch. On this ground three years ago a spectator died when struck by a flare at a soccer match. This was hooliganism of the worst kind. The incident could not mar a performance of great intensity and no little skill by Wales, who had seemed destined for a second successive wooden spoon. Their pack, with Gareth Llewellyn and Gwyn Jones outstanding, rucked like the Scots at their best. Their forwards were invariably quicker to the breakdown to win second-phase possession, with the French pinned back in their own half for long periods.

For Wales's coach Kevin Bowring, it was an especially satisfying afternoon. "We knew we had to stop their driving maul, put them on the ground and then support with dynamic rucking. That was going to be the emphasis of our game," he said. Wales also had a trump card in Robert Howley, the outstanding scrum-half of the tournament and a player still coveted by Saracens. His 11th-minute try set the tone for the afternoon. Derwyn Jones won a line-out and the ball was spun out to Nigel Davies, who stayed on his feet to release it despite being swallowed up by four tacklers. And then Howley reacted in a split second, taking the ball just inside the French 22, he instinctively saw a blind-side gap and accelerated in a perfect arc past three would-be tacklers to touch down in the left-hand corner. Magnificent.

though it came as his pack was being driven back at a scrum five yards from Wales's line. And indiscipline by the French then cost them the game as Neil Jenkins slotted the winning penalty from in front of the posts five minutes before the whistle.

After the match France could not disguise their frustration at giving the championship to England. In the autumn they beat the All Blacks in Toulouse in a memorable game and their young side seemed by far the best in Europe. But their coach Jean-Claude Skrela has used 29 players in the game this season and an embarrassment of riches still makes for some baffling selections.

One such was Abdel Benazzi, who is wasted in the second row, and Thierry Lacroix's goal-kicking was surely a crucial omission in such a tight game as this.

"After the World Cup we tried to rebuild," said the captain, Philippe Saint-André. "But our game in Scotland was our biggest let-down. We're the only team in the Five Nations who can score seven tries in a match, though, so there are plenty of reasons to be optimistic." And with a polite "Bonsoir" he hobbled off to take a drugs test.

Perhaps his coach had an inkling that France's championship hopes would crumble here. Before the match, Welsh television showed a replay of this fixture 20 years ago when JPR Williams legally shouldered-charged the France wing Jean-François Gourdon into touch late in the game to prevent a try and give Wales, not France, the Grand Slam. Skrela was in France's side that day.

Phil Bennett was playing for Wales. Last week he called the current side "jelly babies". But this time the jelly babies bit back. SCORERS: Wales: Try: Howley. Conversion: Jenkins. Penalties: Jenkins. France: Try: Castaignède. Conversion: Castaignède. Penalties: Castaignède. WALSLEY: J. Thomas; I. Evans (both injured); J. Davies (Healey); M. Jones (Llanelli); G. Thomas (Rugby); J. Jenkins (Pontypridd); R. Howley (Stratford); G. Leader (Swansea); J. Humphreys (Cardiff); capt. J. Davies; J. Llewellyn (both North); B. Jones; J. Taylor (Cardiff); J. S. Williams (Colwyn); R. Howley (Toulouse); G. Campese (Agen); S. Gray (Bourges); P. Saint-André (Montpellier); J. Castaignède (Toulouse); G. Ancochea (Agen); F. Gauthier (Castelnau); G. Campese (Toulouse); J.-M. Gonzalez (Bayonne); F. Tournadre (Montpellier); A. Bessis (Agen); G. Bessis (Agen); M. Gaudin (Toulouse); B. Hines; Dax; T. L. Cabannes (Racing); S. Gagnage (Toulouse); G. Bressat; G. Gwilym; R. Howley (Toulouse).

Athletics

Modahl sues for £480,000

Stephen Bierley D IANE MODAHL is suing the British Athletic Federation for £480,000 compensation over her drugs case. The federation's annual meeting was held in Birmingham.

actions in the past five years, with £195,000 going on the Modahl case, still unresolved. On the same day in Mansfield, where Modahl helped her club Sale Harriers win the women's team event at the national cross country relay championships, her husband Vicente spoke of their financial difficulties.

Next weekend in Cape Town the International Amateur Athletic Federation is to make a further pronouncement. The BAF cleared Modahl on appeal last year but the IAAF has not accepted the finding.

stressed the lack of evidence and complained about the BAF's lack of help and its unwillingness to accept any financial responsibility. Lister related the BAF's position that, on the best current advice, "Mrs Modahl has no legal basis for a claim". He added that the BAF was having to bear "an unfair burden".

Tennis

Just deserts for Graf in heated return from surgery on foot

STEFFI GRAF overcame searing heat and a below-par performance to defeat Conchita Martínez 7-6 in the final of the State Farm Evert Cup in Indian Wells, California.

It was Graf's first tournament since foot surgery in December, and the top seed had to come from behind to take the tie-breaks 7-5. She has now beaten Martínez 12 times in 13 meetings. Graf committed 53 unforced errors against 42 by Martínez in 110F desert heat which caused one ball-boy to faint and held up play for 10 minutes.

Badminton

Olympic fillip for British pair after taste of mixed fortunes

RICHARD JAGO SIMON ARCHER and Julie Bradbury were losers and winners after their first final in the Jones All England Championships in Birmingham on Saturday.

They lost 15-10, 15-10 to the legendary Park Joo-Bong and his new partner Ra Kyung-Min, but the third-seeded English pair appear to have won a top-four seeding for the Atlanta Olympics in July. That will give them a stronger chance of becoming the first Britons to win an Olympic badminton medal, having already shown themselves to be among the front runners with their 15-4, 14-17, 15-11 victory at midnight on Friday against Jan-Erik Antonsson and Astrid Crabo, the Swedes who denied them a medal in the world championships last year.

Soccer

Premier Division: Rangers 1, Celtic 1

Hughes the Lochinvar

Patrick Glenn

IN THE matter of timely rescues John Hughes proved himself the equal of Young Lochinvar. The Celtic defender's 80th-minute headed goal...

Double distress for Venables

TERRY VENABLES, the England coach, left Ibrox Park with a headache induced by two different sources after yesterday's Rangers-Celtic match...

He may have been worried by Gascoigne's condition than his ability at the end of 90 minutes during which he impressed only in scratches...

Before he was booked for a heavy challenge on Andreas Thom, Gascoigne had swung a retaliatory elbow at Jackie McNamara...

extend it to an insurmountable task. If there was an element of good fortune about Rangers' fluent movement...

Celtic, playing with their accustomed neat passing and fluent movement, looked in control of themselves and the play when McLaren gave Rangers their goal in the 41st minute...

The free-kick that Miller conceded to bring Celtic's equaliser was unnecessary as O'Donnell's before the interval. He tripped McStay...

McStay's goal was a result of a heavy challenge on Andreas Thom, Gascoigne had swung a retaliatory elbow at Jackie McNamara...



Sandwich man... Gascoigne is caught between two Celtic players in the Old Firm match which, ending 1-1, kept Rangers three points clear

Endsleigh First Division: Birmingham City 0, Sunderland 2

Reid's new leaders made in his own image

Tom Evans

FOOTBALL teams often reflect the personality of their manager. Peter Reid's new First Division leaders Sunderland certainly conform to that.

Fry's Birmingham team, in his own vernacular, show plenty of front but are either world-beaters or panel-beaters. This time his side should have stuck to their cards.

The gulf between the two teams was exposed after 15 minutes. Kevin Ball, who as captain leads from the front, back side and anywhere else where he can make a challenge...

shown the standard needed to reach the Premiership, his own side were woefully short. Reid said: "No matter how hard it was to get there, it's even harder to stay at the top."

Reid said afterwards he expected Reid's team to win the division by 10 points and added that, if Sunderland had

Weekend results

Soccer

Table with columns for League, Home, Away, and Points. Includes sections for FA Cup, Premier Division, and other leagues.

ANGLO-ITALIAN CUP

Table showing results for the Anglo-Italian Cup, including teams like Arsenal, Tottenham, and others.

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE

Table showing results for the Bell's Scottish League, including teams like Rangers, Celtic, and others.

DUTCH LEAGUE

Table showing results for the Dutch League, including teams like Feyenoord, Ajax, and others.

GOLF

Table showing golf tournament results, including names of players and their scores.

PROFESSIONAL BILL

Table showing professional billiard tournament results, including names of players and their scores.

Cricket

Table showing cricket match results, including names of teams and their scores.

Sport in brief

Alan McManus came back from 54-0 down to win the final frame and edge out Ken Doherty 9-8 in the Thailand Open final in Bangkok last night...

Cricket

Table showing cricket match results, including names of teams and their scores.

Table Tennis

Table showing table tennis match results, including names of players and their scores.

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Motor Racing

The former Formula One English driver Mark Blundell crashed spectacularly against a perimeter wall at 150mph in yesterday's Rio de Janeiro IndyCar race...

Table Tennis

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CRICKET: Sri Lanka's outsiders upset all the odds to claim the World Cup, page 13

RUGBY UNION: England capture the crown as France perish in Cardiff's cauldron, page 14

SportsGuardian

Frank Bruno's bid to hang on to his WBC title is left in tatters after little more than two rounds. **Richard Williams** reports from Las Vegas

Tyson gets back to basic instincts

Bruno's reign ends after 197 days

DID anyone seriously imagine there could be any other kind of ending? After six minutes and 50 seconds of boxing in the MGM Grand Garden on Saturday night the natural order reasserted itself when Mike Tyson deprived Frank Bruno of the World Boxing Council heavyweight title by a technical knockout following a whirlwind of punches that left the defending champion's senses in disarray.

But in case anyone should think that it was easy pickings for the boxer, Tyson's demeanour at the end of the fight showed the significance he attached to success in the first stage of his attempt to reunify the three heavyweight titles. He fell to his knees, bowing directly at Louis Farrakhan, the leader of the Nation of Islam, who was sitting at ringside. And, when the new champion had the WBC belt safely around his midriff, he came to the edge of the platform to show it off, thrusting it at the world in a display of pure machismo that will have done no good to the morale of whoever his next opponent turns out to be.

Bruno had held the title for 197 days, an achievement of which he can be justly proud and which will ensure him a special standing among his fellow countrymen for as long as he lives. This, they will say, was a man who got into a boxing ring with Mike Tyson not once but twice; he will be admired for the dogged courage with which, in the course of a 14-year professional career, he found ways to overcome a complete lack of innate aptitude for the game's techniques.

Tyson, of course, is the most natural of fighters, elemental in his ferocity and his understanding of how to use his limited stature against bigger opponents. Yet it must be said that the Bruno of 1996 could not match the achievement of his younger self, who had lasted five rounds in 1989 and briefly but memorably hurt a man who at the time looked the most invincible fighter since Marcellino.

Saturday's opening round must nevertheless have been among the most impressive Bruno has fought, given the

quality of the man emerging from the other corner. Tyson could be seen as Bruno, looking to get inside his guard. Bruno opened with textbook left jabs and held his own in a series of furious exchanges until, with only 10 seconds left on the clock, Tyson unloaded a long straight right which caught Bruno on the left eye. The value of the blow could be seen as Bruno retreated to his corner and George Francis began working on a deep cut an inch long just beneath the eyebrow.

Effectively the fight ended at that moment. Thereafter Bruno's prime concern was to protect the eye from further injury; he never got a chance

410 seconds to oblivion

● ROUND ONE Atmosphere tremendous as fighters meet at ring centre. Tyson scowling, impassive; Bruno visibly trying to summon determination and concentration. Referee Mills Lane has to shout as he issues last-minute instructions.

Tyson starts fast, climbs all over Bruno, who has no room to do more than hold or cut side of Tyson's head. Furious exchange of punches indicate the round even, perhaps even shaded by Bruno.

● ROUND TWO Bruno catches the onrushing Tyson with a short uppercut lead. Tyson, head way down, fields it on his shoulder. More grabbing leads to a public warning for Bruno, who loses the round, if only through the deducted point.

● ROUND THREE More grabbing by Bruno; his punch resistance weakening. Lane again parts them in the ring, warning both men. As he waves them on, Tyson finds space to land crushing left hook to Bruno's jaw. Bruno, stiff-legged, rears back against ropes. Tyson seizes his chance, could not hook to the head bring Bruno's arms down, and clear the way for two right uppercuts. A further left and right hook, all unprotected blows, lead Lane to step in. The Americans are howling and weeping; the British congenially silent.

"I was all taken just six minutes 50 seconds

Jack Messarik

to devise a counter-attack. The jab had lost its authority. Now Tyson found a more tentative response every time he walked forward. Early in the second round, with the two men in a rolling maul, the referee Mills Lane gave them both a lecture. "I told them, look, you're fighting a hell of a fight, but knock off all this crap, the grabbing and the jerking on the inside," he said. A couple of minutes later he gave Bruno a further warning and deducted a point. "He was grabbing and holding. He didn't want to get hit. But it wasn't just defence, it was offensive grabbing."

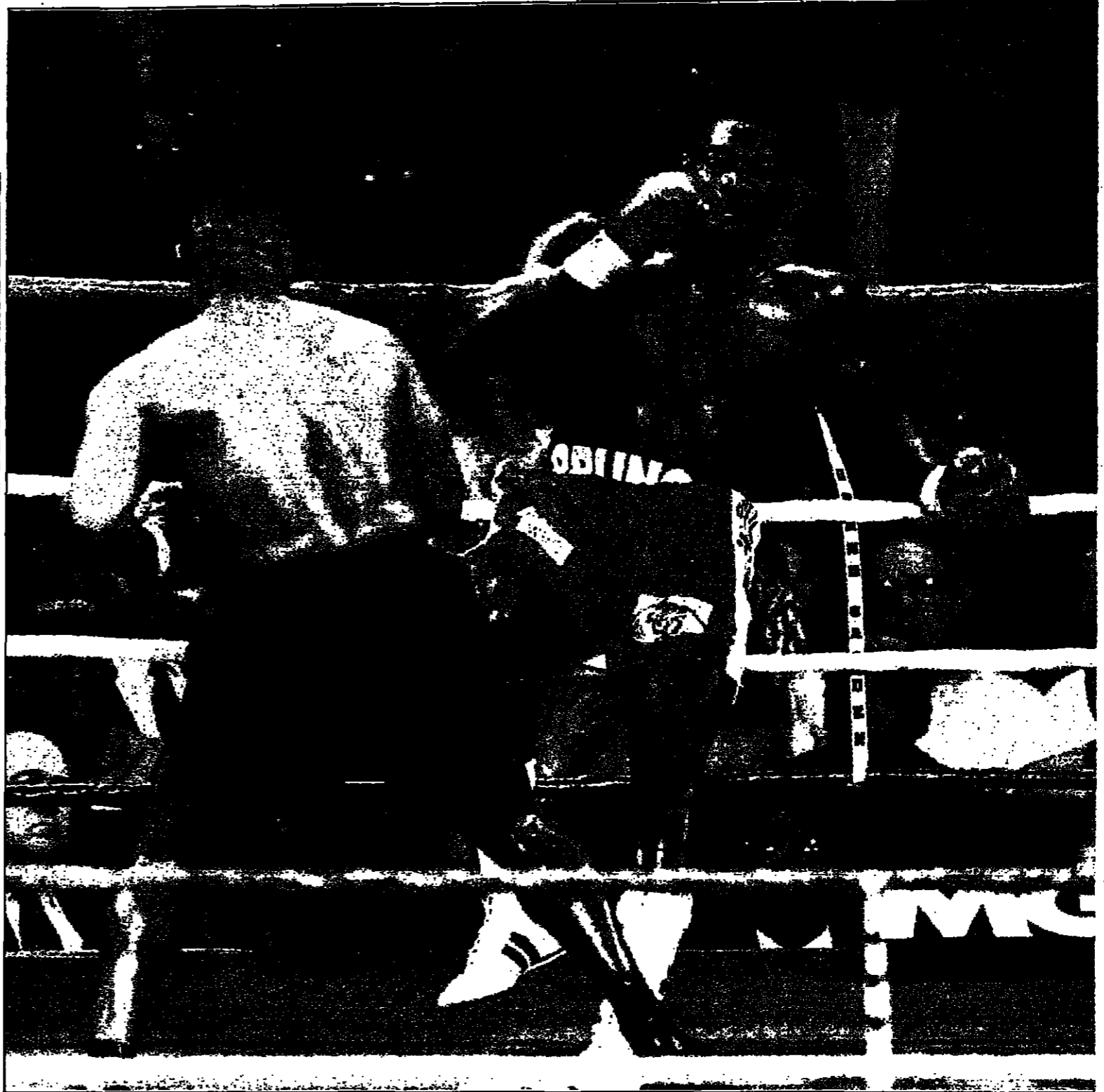
Tyson missed with a big left hook, as he was to do again early in the third round, but they were the exceptions. When Bruno tried switching to a left lead to protect his cut, it was to no avail. Half a minute into the third, after Bruno had been warned again for holding, Tyson launched the assault that broke the champion.

It began with two big lefts to the jaw, followed by right and a left to the head which forced Bruno back into the ropes. Bruno's defence was now non-existent. Tyson waited, watched and then unleashed a series of three right-hand uppercuts, the first and third of which detonated in Bruno's face. A further left and right as he went down against the ropes were superfluous. Lane, his shirt splattered with the champion's blood, stepped in to save Bruno from further punishment.

"He was in real trouble," Lane said later. "He was hurt bad, really getting nailed. Tyson's pretty close to being back, I'll tell you that. But it wasn't a dirty fight. It was a pure fight. And he's a pure fighter."

The winner, unmarked, looked as though he could have fought all night, taking on the champions of the other two governing bodies — the WBA's Bruce Seldon and the IBF's François Botha — if necessary, perhaps with Lennox Lewis thrown in for good measure. "As you could see," Tyson said, "I was throwing punches. I'm doing well, but I still have plenty of room for improvement." Who will his next opponent be? "I'll fight anyone Don King puts in front of me."

From Bruno there was an honest admission of failure. "I was trying to use my weight against him," he said,



Seconds out, again... Tyson knocks Bruno backwards and on to the ropes as the referee prepares to call a halt

PHOTOGRAPH: TOM JENKINS

"but he was very fast. He was better than I thought. He beat me fair and square. It's a rough game. Now I'm going to call it with my family before I make any more decisions."

The thousands who had travelled from Britain were clearly of a mind to forgive him for failing to extend Tyson further. Not so Floyd Patterson, a great former champion. "I expected Bruno to

box," he said, "but he didn't. And that's what Tyson is, a slugger."

Patterson was standing in the hotel casino, patiently signing autographs for a queue of British fans whose aggression had been spent in the hours building up to the fight, when Tyson's admirers had fled into the hall with utter bemusement on their faces as they ran the gauntlet of the hordes in Chelsea and

with. The celebrities — Eddie Murphy, Steffi Graf, Ice T, Jack Nicholson, Paul Weller, Kevin Costner, Bill Cosby and many more — were long gone. Only a few hundred British fans were still around to salute what will surely be his last exit from a boxing ring. He picked up a Union Jack and waved it in salute to the last of the faithful. Then he kissed his daughters. It was time to go home.

Making It

£11.00

The Guardian's new video, Making It, is an inside look at the way the newspaper is produced and the people behind the headlines. It includes interviews with editorial, graphic journalists and staff responsible for advertising and production and is ideal for students of all ages interested in Media Studies, English and current affairs. Making It is available on VHS video (15 minutes) at a cost of £11.00 (including Posting & Packaging)

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The Guardian

Bring on Lewis, but slowly

By his choice of challenger we shall know the new Mike Tyson, says **Kevin Mitchell**

THE immediate future of heavyweight boxing has been returned to the custody of a man for whom the sport's integrity and traditions once mattered much.

Whether such romantic notions are still a priority for Mike Tyson will be determined, however, by his willingness to face the one fighter left who seems capable of testing whether the Smith hooks to the head bring Tyson visited upon Frank Bruno represented a genuine rehabilitation: Lennox Lewis.

The first fight, of course, will involve competing promoters and their lawyers. Round one went to Lewis last Friday when a New Jersey court ruled that the World Boxing Council must grant the former champion the shot at the title he was promised nearly a year ago.

However, Don King is not so sure. Lacing his post-

fight analysis of the ruling with his customary sarcasm, Tyson's promoter said: "We respect the court system and we don't want to take the system on. It is part of our liberty."

Whether King has long taken liberties with the truth and the system, nobody should be carried away with his apparent commitment to allowing an outsider into the Tyson party. But he might not be able to keep Lewis out indefinitely, and there is commercial logic in a September showdown between the new and the old champion.

However, the presence on the dais immediately after Saturday night's bout of King's other two title-holders, Bruce Seldon (World Boxing Association) and Frans Botha (International Boxing Federation), encouraged the view that Tyson will be fed a couple of tune-ups this summer.

Which brings us back to the new WBC champion's motivation and what remains of his real regard for the tawdry old game.

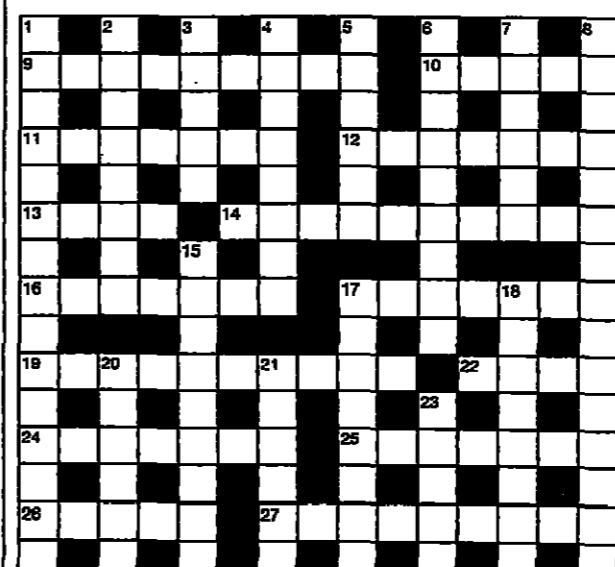
Apart from Lewis, whose size, speed and punching authority command Tyson's professional respect, only Riddick Bowe among the established heavyweights might have the artillery to mount a credible threat. But given his contractual arrangements with King's most difficult rival, Rock Newman, a fight between Tyson and Bowe would be hard to nail down.

George Foreman? His \$15 million (£10 million) offer to take a three-fight exhibition tour of Asia and Australia was rejected out of hand last week. He would be little more than a novelty opponent now.

Evander Holyfield, such a fine warrior once, looks beyond repair. Michael Moorer's skills are deteriorating through inactivity. Logic points to Lewis as the contender. But when did logic and reality get on in professional boxing?

Guardian Crossword No 20,603

Set by Orlando



Across

- 9 Bush acquires English to become an American author (9)
- 10 Ulester award for tearful queen (5)
- 11 Government leader, in the end, has to cheat (7)
- 12 Game making some American a star (7)
- 13 Number of sheets — about a million (4)
- 14 Free from self-contradiction, what's inside is outside and centre of outside is inside (10)
- 15 Red meal turns green (7)
- 16 Gas for glass? (7)
- 19 American author turns blue in tree (4,5)
- 22 Chalcedonian tax (4)
- 24 Chagrin, being put out with bending (7)

- 25 Former model including model living no longer... (7)
- 26... moribund, already in grave, partly (5)
- 27 Marginal entry in Chambers about battle? (8)

Down

- 1 Hasn't seal fender rocks off the Northumberland coast? (9,5,7)
- 2 Ankle was twisted in ballet (4,4)
- 3 Tree-top tall, and part below the trunk (5)
- 4 Sponge of leader at sea (8)
- 5 2's Roman god embracing Anglican? (6)
- 6 Yoko doesn't dance alone (2,4,3)
- 7 Prophet endlessly devouring American sweet (6)
- 8 Leave people ordaining others in a shop (10,5)



WINNERS OF PRIZE PUZZLE 20,598
This week's winners of a Collins English Dictionary are J. Jacobs of Lewes, Sussex; Michael Grapper of London, SW18; John H. Davies of Bristol; Sophie Hambleton of Harborne, Birmingham; and George Clements of Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, Northumberland.

- 15 University city, radio village (8)
- 17 Goes on providing revenue (8)
- 18 Crane with cat changing into bird (8)
- 20 A portion of sweet and sour Chinese hedgehog (6)
- 21 Member is with Tory leader, being one skilled in the laws (6)
- 23 Guide for young ox (5)

Solution tomorrow

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“Don't worry,” said the vet when, eventually, we decided that his rollicking could only be curbed by surgery. “It merely means that from now on he will behave in rather less of an 18th century manner.”

Andrew Moncur G2 page 4